

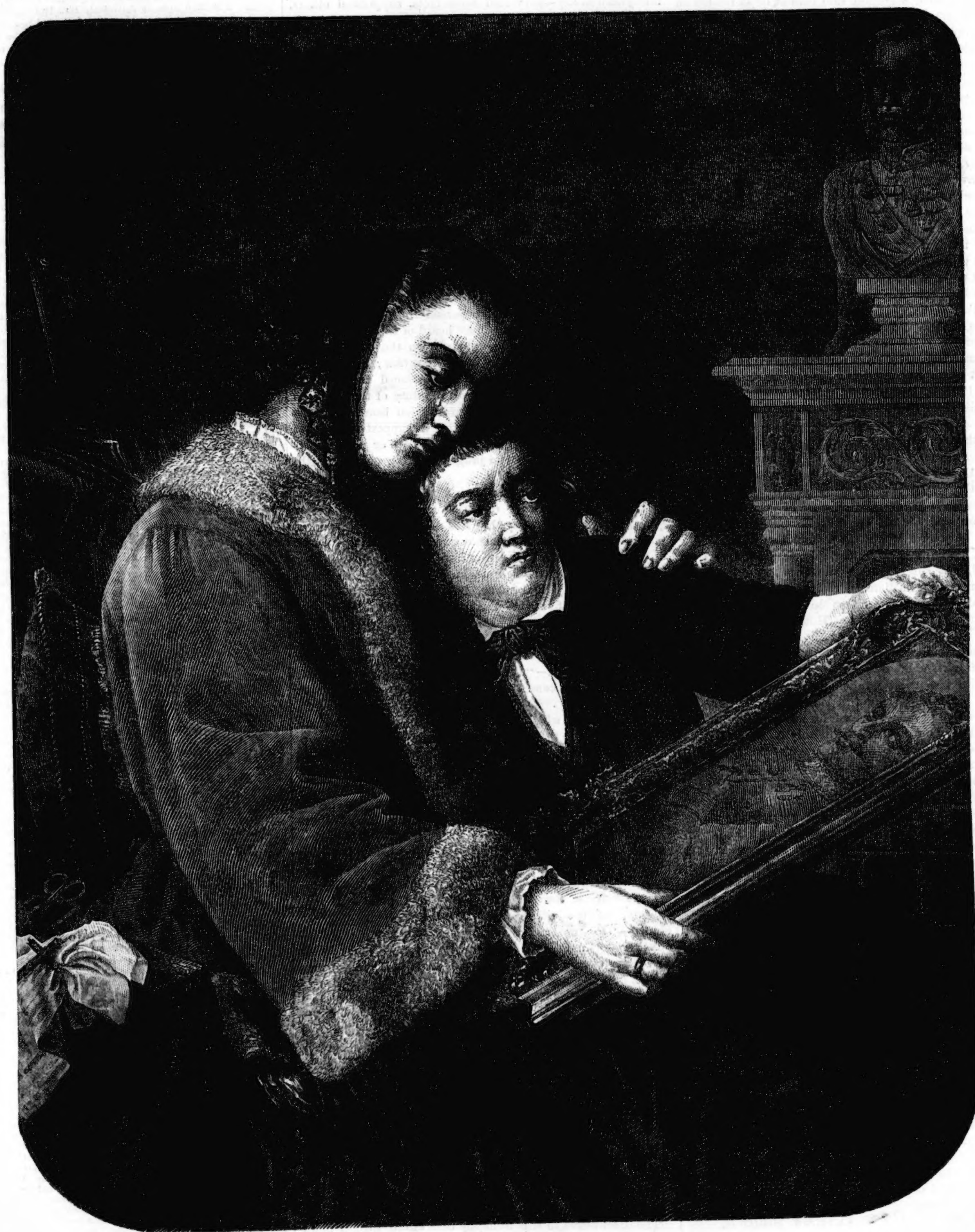
# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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"HIS PORTRAIT."—AN EPISODE OF THE LATE WAR.





## THE LORDS AND THE ARMY BILL.

So, hereditary patrician wisdom has once more proved itself no better—if not worse—than uninherited plebeian foolishness. The Peers have refused to pass the Army Bill; and that under false pretences, too—which shows that their noble and very honourable Lordships can condescend to a little evasion when it suits their purpose. The Duke of Richmond's amendment concerned itself exclusively with Army re-organisation; but the speeches in its support were mainly about purchase. The minds of Conscript Fathers were pre-occupied with the interests of officers, while those of the Army and of the country received but small attention. The unwisdom of the course the House of Lords has followed is as conspicuous as are the meanness of the motives that prompted it, and the hollowness of the pretences under which it was pursued. The privileged order in the State wishes to preserve a monopoly of command in the Army for the moneyed classes, to retain advantages without giving adequate returns in genuine skilled service, to secure position and power without undergoing the study and training needful to the due performance of the duties to which the scions of noble and wealthy houses aspire; and the House of Lords is content to endanger the safety and the honour of the country in order to accomplish these objects. That, stripped of subterfuge, is a plain statement of the case. We say this is mean conduct; and it is unwise, for even the most obtuse of hereditary legislators must know that they strive in vain to save a system that cannot be defended on principle, that stands condemned by its results, that is disapproved by the country, and has been denounced by a large majority in the House of Commons. "Purchase is doomed;" there can be no doubt about that, and noble Lords are powerless to save it. The utmost they can do is to delay execution; and, the longer the delay, the worse will be the fate of parties interested in the maintenance of existing abuses. The Government, supported by the House of Commons, made a liberal offer to purchase-officers; the Peers, assuming to act on their behalf, have thought proper to reject that offer, and have thereby absolved all parties from any necessity of special tenderness in dealing with the monopolists.

It is no use rediscussing the merits—or, rather, the demerits—of the purchase system. The nation must recover control over its own army, a necessity made all the more apparent by the conduct of the monopolists of command; and the only point worth consideration now is how this is to be accomplished irrespective of both Colonels and Peers. An Act of Parliament is not necessary to the abolition of purchase in the Army; it can be done by Royal warrant, and action under Royal warrant must be taken. Buying and selling commissions by private persons must be stopped; the payment of over-regulation prices must be made in reality what it is in law now—a misdemeanour, and punished accordingly; there must be no tolerance of the practice of "making up purses" nor other illegal ways of continuing purchase under other names; and the only buyers of commissions must be the Government, acting on behalf of the nation. All this can be done on the responsibility of the authorised advisers of the Crown, and with the concurrence of the House of Commons expressed in an address to the Throne. By this means purchase can be got rid of and the monopolists be baulked—more slowly, perhaps, than by the scheme propounded by Mr. Cardwell, but surely enough, and at less cost. The only point on which Parliament really needs to be consulted is that of finance; and as in money matters the House of Commons is supreme, that House would, no doubt, readily pass a purely money bill, which the Lords cannot amend and would think twice ere they rejected. We frankly confess that we do not like the notion of dealing with important public questions on Ministerial responsibility and without the full sanction of Parliament regularly obtained. Such a precedent might be perverted to evil uses, and its establishment can only be warranted by markedly exceptional cases. But the case of the Army Bill is markedly exceptional. The organisation and management of the Army are within the special prerogative of the Crown, subject to the check of the Commons' control over supplies; purchase in the Army does not rest on Parliamentary enactment, but on mere usage tolerated by the Crown; the Crown and the Commons, supported by the people, are agreed that purchase should cease; the Lords alone stand in the way; and it is unreasonable that two of the Estates of the Realm should be thwarted by the third, and that, too, in a matter over which the latter has really no right of control, seeing that it is purely administrative and financial, not legislative. These facts fully justify the measures we have proposed.

The course the Government intend to adopt will probably be explained ere this sheet reaches the hands of our readers; but the question of which Sir George Grey gave notice, on Tuesday, indicates their views as to over-regulation payments, for of course it was by arrangement Sir George Grey gave his notice; and further steps may be in contemplation, either those we have indicated above or others calculated to secure like results. About one thing there must be no mistake: no further liabilities must be incurred, the country must not be placed in a worse position than at present by the selfishness and folly of "officers" and Peers. It is bad enough that the nation should be compelled to buy back the Army from its own servants; the obligation must not be made more onerous by calculated delays.

## THE POLICE AND THE ELTHAM MURDER.

EDMUND WALTER POOK has been acquitted of the murder of Jane Maria Clousen, near Eltham, on April 25 last. No other conclusion could have been come to on the evidence

adduced; but the trial suggests some very disagreeable reflections. One miscarriage of justice has positively occurred: the real murderer remains undiscovered and an atrocious crime unpunished; and another miscarriage of justice has been but barely escaped. A man declared innocent by a jury of his countrymen has had a narrow escape for his life, not from any substantial indications of guilt, but from a determination on the part of the police to make things fit in with the theory of his criminality, whether they naturally did so or not; in other words, the police have but just escaped committing one murder under pretence of avenging another. The administration of the law is thus gravely discredited, the character of the guardians of the public safety is compromised, and persons of criminal tendencies are encouraged by so striking an example of immunity from punishment. And all these grievous results have followed from two simple causes: first, that there is in England no public prosecutor, whose business should be to sift evidence and direct inquiries; and, second, that certain police officers have mistaken their functions, and have constituted themselves both judge and jury, instead of confining themselves to their proper province of investigating and reporting. The officers, Griffin and Mulvaney, made up their minds that Pook was guilty, and incontinently set themselves the task of making good their theory rather than that of discovering the truth. With this object in their minds, they—consciously or unconsciously we will not undertake to say—perverted some facts, suppressed others, and laid themselves open to the suspicion of conveniently discovering, if not of manufacturing, circumstances that suited their preconceived notions, while they totally neglected to pursue clues that might have led to the detection of the real culprit. Take the matter of the whistle, for instance. A whistle is said to have been picked up by a policeman within fifteen yards of where the murdered girl was found on the day (April 26) after the crime was committed, yet no mention is made of the fact till May 19, by which time it had been ascertained that young Pook had been in the habit of using a whistle as a signal to his sweetheart. We say this is discovering evidence in a very convenient fashion—to put as fine a point as possible upon it—and is calculated to awaken very grave suspicions indeed. Then there was the matter of the bloody handkerchief. A handkerchief or duster, stained with blood, is found not far from the scene of the crime, on the same 26th of April; but that, too, is locked up in a police-office cupboard; and, as it did not seem to militate against the person the police had fixed upon as the murderer, is no more heard of till the fact of its existence is accidentally brought out in the course of the trial. True, it proved of no importance then; but it might have been of very great importance if traced to its owner at the time. At all events, it was the duty of the police to bring forward every scrap of information bearing on the case which they could glean, whether it supported their pet theory of the guilt of a particular individual or not. Their business is to inquire, not to judge; to bring out the truth, not to procure convictions.

The conduct of the officers Griffin and Mulvaney, moreover, was objectionable on other grounds. They cross-questioned Pook in a way they had no right to do, making false statements—or statements which they did not know to be true—in order to entrap him into damaging admissions; and, in reporting their cross-questionings, they repeated insinuations they had made, but suppressed the denial instantly given to them—thereby conveying a false impression of what had passed. No wonder the Solicitor-General should have been troubled to find an excuse for such conduct, and should have uttered so seemingly contradictory sentences as these:—"It is the duty of the Crown to present everything which comes to its knowledge, on whichever side it may be. . . . Is English justice really come to this, that everything which can by possibility help a person accused of crime to be put into his hands to be made, possibly, an unscrupulous use of, and is nothing to be kept in their hands for the purpose of bringing to justice a wicked and determined criminal? It may strike some minds that this is the proper thing; but to my mind it seems spurious, sham, miserable, and pusillanimous. Do justice, undoubtedly; but do not get a spurious sentimental notion that justice cannot be done without everything being given up for the accused and nothing kept in the hands of the accuser." How can anything be "kept in the hands of the accuser" if it be "the duty of the Crown"—that is to say, of the officers of the Crown, policemen included—"to present everything that comes to its"—or their—"knowledge, on whichever side it may be"? A much clearer deliverance was that of Chief Justice Bovill, and we hope police-officers of all degrees will henceforth bear it in mind. "With regard to the conduct of the police, he thought they had done very wrong in not bringing all the facts before the Court. The police had no right to keep back any facts; and the result of such a proceeding might be that the jury would convict an innocent man, and the Judge who tried the case might be instrumental in carrying out such a result, owing to his being ignorant of all the facts of the case." The mischief that might have followed this improper conduct has happily, in this case, been averted; but we fear similar tactics are too often pursued, and many innocent persons may have suffered through this determination of the police to procure convictions and to establish foregone conclusions, to arrive at which was altogether beyond their province.

The disclosures in this unhappy case afford further proof of the defective character of English criminal jurisprudence so far as the manner of getting up evidence is concerned. The police, upon whom the duty has been thrust or who

have assumed it of their own accord, are clearly unfitted, by education, training, and associations, from performing such a difficult and delicate task satisfactorily; and the only efficient remedy is the appointment of a competent public prosecutor, with a staff of properly-qualified assistants. To something like the Scottish system of procurators-fiscal or the Irish one of crown solicitors we in England must come sooner or later; and the sooner it is done, the fewer chances there will be of the recurrence of such scandals as have distinguished the inquiry into the murder of Jane Maria Clousen.

## "HIS PORTRAIT."

AMIDST the glorifications and rejoicings, the marchings past and shoutings, the band-playing and the paeans of victory which a week ago attracted thousands of spectators to Berlin, there was one element in the crowd that thronged the streets which demanded notice as the shadow of the glory of such triumphs as Germany had agreed to celebrate. Here and there, as the great pageant of war swept by, as the regiments came tramping on, their bayonets (cleared of blood stains) bearing green wreaths, and with bouquets blooming on the muzzles of their breechloaders, a little group might be seen standing with hands loosely clasped and plaintive, tear-dimmed eyes, their mourning tokens offering a sad contrast to the gay blazonry of the spectacle they had come to witness. Sometimes a solitary woman, grey and grief-stricken, or young, and yet with the first wrinkles of a great sorrow marking age in her face, would be seen marching hand-in-hand with, or clutching the arm of, one of the stalwart heroes of the war, the only surviving son or brother, when another son, or a husband, or a father, had fallen on the red field of Sedan, or lay beneath a rude wooden cross in an undistinguished burial-place near Gravelotte. The triumph is national, but the mourning is national also. From north to south gentlefolk and peasants are bound together by the common tie of sorrowing for the dead, and as the officer lies beside the private soldier, the squire by the stalwart Landwehr-man, in the foreign cemetery where the green carpet of the summer is only just waving lightly over the rude graves marked with the hurried tokens left by the hands of sorrowing comrades, so over the tokens that are left to those who mourn at home, high-born lady, thrifty housewife, and forlorn village maiden, sit and weep to think that the triumphs of the country must even yet be bought with the life-blood of the best of those who make that country of any worth.

## DOMESTIC LIFE IN KABYLIA.

ALTHOUGH the condition of the women is better in Kabylia than in the south of Algeria, it is, nevertheless, by no means enviable, for between the male and the woman there is but little difference. The husband—or, rather, the master—is exceedingly jealous of his wife, or slave. The woman should never speak to any other man but her husband, and she should avoid as much as possible gazing on any other. To be received in the house of a Kabyle amongst his wives a man must be a bosom friend of long standing. Thus, when I asked to visit a Kabyle house at Tin-Cachin, the inhabitants made, first of all, some difficulty on account of the women, and it was only when they had been put out of the way that my request was complied with. Notwithstanding all these precautions, the Kabyle woman is not virtuous; and, although the penalty for turning off the high road of duty is both the death of the woman and that of her paramour, she will always deceive her husband when the occasion presents itself—that is to say, for money.

I passed through a wicker-work doorway into the courtyard, and entered the Kabyle house on the right. It was a building constructed of stones and mud, or rather clay; the walls were very thick, which was probably to keep out the heat, and had no windows. The roof, which was without a chimney, as is customary in Kabyle dwellings, was of long red roughly-moulded tiles, shaped like cylinders split in two. The interior of the Kabyle house is divided into two parts, but the exterior has only one door, through which both the live stock and the family pass into the portion reserved for the latter; immediately on the left is a second doorway, beyond which is the cowshed, where the goats, sheep, mules, or donkeys, and horned cattle are placed at night. The living-room looks more like a cellar than anything else; all round the walls are solid stone benches, less than a yard high, and about four feet broad, upon which the Kabyles sit or sleep on plaited grass mats, which they make for that purpose. Against the walls, and on a sort of ledge above the cowshed, were a number of large earthen jars, five feet high, in which the Kabyles keep their corn. These jars are made by the Kabyle women, one of whom stands in the middle and works at the inside while the others build up the jar on the outside. When it is finished the woman is lifted out and the jar is placed to dry in the sun or in the centre of a slow fire.

The Kabyle costume consists of a long shirt reaching below the knees, a *burnous*, a white skull-cap, and a red *chachia* made of a woollen material. Some of the people wear shoes, but they generally take these off when they sit down, and only use them in the country to protect their feet against thorns, &c. The women wear a long chemise reaching to their ankles, fastened round the waist by a coloured sash, and a coloured handkerchief in their hair; many have bracelets round their wrists or ankles, earrings and ornaments in their hair, and some are tattooed about the face. Correspondent of "Daily News."

WOOD CARVING.—Mr. G. A. Rogers is exhibiting at his studio in Maddox-street a very choice collection of works by himself and his father, Mr. W. G. Rogers, whose artistic embellishment of the City churches of St. Mary-at-Hill and St. Michael, Cornhill, may be compared with the best work of Gibb's, for whose chefs d'œuvre he has done much in the way of preservation and restoration. Among the specimens now on view are brackets of exquisite design, quaintly-carved cabinets and tables, and some richly carved frames suitable for miniatures or photographs. A noble redwood centre, illustrating the story of the tribute money, is alone worth a visit. It is a copy in marble of Rubens's celebrated picture and is the work of Mr. John Dobbin. Mr. Rogers's eightieth year is nigh, and now that he has laid aside his chisel collectors and admirers of his art will do well to visit this exhibition of some of his best works.

THE LATE MR. KEITH JOHNSTON, F.R.S.—Born at Kirkhill, near Edinburgh, Mr. Alexander Keith Johnston, whose death we recorded last week, was originally educated for the medical profession, but became apprentice to an engraver, and acquired that artistic skill by which his works were characterised. At an early age he commenced the study of geography, with a view to the establishment of a school of that science in his own country; and, having mastered the works of the best English and foreign writers, he published his "National Atlas" in 1845. This publication procured for him the appointment of Geographer to the Queen in Scotland. Mr. Keith Johnston's name, however, is best known as having made, on a large scale, the application of physical science to geography. Founding his researches on the writings of Humboldt and Ritter, and aided by the counsel of the former, he produced, in 1848, "The Physical Atlas of Natural Phenomena," of which more than one edition has subsequently appeared. At different times he was elected an honorary or corresponding member of the principal geographical societies of Europe, Asia, and America; and a Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the University of which city conferred on him the honorary degree of LL.D. in 1865. For the first physical globe he had awarded to him the medal of the Great Exhibition of 1851. Among the best known of Mr. Keith Johnston's other works are his "Dictionary of Geography" (1850), his "Atlas of the Historical Geography of Europe" (1856), his "Atlas of Astronomy," his "General and Geological Map of Europe" (1857), his "Atlas of the United States of North America" (1857). To these we must add the series of well-known educational works which bear his name—atlases of physical, general, and classical geography; and, above all, "The Royal Atlas of General Geography," dedicated, by special permission, to her Majesty, the only atlas for which a prize medal was awarded at the second Great International Exhibition; and, lastly, a series of library maps of the great divisions of the world, each on four sheets of "imperial" dimensions, which adorn the walls of nearly every club-house and public institution.



## Foreign Intelligence.

## FRANCE.

Some slight difficulty has retarded the payment by the French Government of the first half milliard to the Germans, but the amount will shortly be handed over, and the Prussians will then evacuate the departments of the Eure, the Somme, and the Seine-Inférieure. The French Government, it is expected, will discharge the following milliard as early as possible, in order to hasten the departure of the Prussians from the other departments.

Much interest is shown both by the press and the public generally respecting the municipal elections which are to take place throughout France on Sunday (to-morrow). Though the Reds are making great efforts, it is considered that the result of the struggle will be favourable to the Party of Order.

M. Thiers, in reply to a deputation of the Left, last Saturday, stated that the arrests now taking place were of persons charged with grave offences; he added that the state of siege would soon be raised. The return of the Assembly to Paris could not take place until after the recess—that is, until October or November.

The Duc de Chartres, who served in the Army of the Loire under the name of Captain Robert Lefort, has demanded of the Minister for War to be incorporated in the Army of Africa. General Aurelle des Paladins has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the 14th Military Division at Bordeaux.

M. Guibert, the Archbishop of Tours, has been appointed Archbishop of Paris, the appointment having now been signed by M. Thiers.

M. Guibert is upwards of sixty-eight years of age, having been born in 1802. He was formerly Bishop of Viviers, and has been Archbishop of Tours ever since Feb. 4, 1857. A funeral service in honour of Monseigneur Darboy was held on Tuesday, at Notre Dame. The Abbé Penaud delivered the funeral oration. A similar ceremony was performed yesterday in honour of M. Boujean, the members of the Court of Cassation being present.

On Tuesday afternoon M. Gambetta was examined by the Committee of Inquiry into the acts of the Government of National Defence, and is said to have proved by documentary evidence that he raised no less than 1,100,000 men, instead of 700,000, as had been alleged.

The Customs duties on raw material, proposed by the French Minister of Finance, M. Pouyer-Quertier, have been rejected by the Budget Committee.

In the first place, the proposed duty of 20 per cent, with drawback, was thrown out, and then one from 2 to 5 per cent, without drawback. It was resolved by the Committee that the tax should be levied on the manufactured article. In consequence of the decision of the Committee it is expected that M. Pouyer-Quertier will give up his proposed duties on raw material.

The Committee on the Budget, in concert with the Government, has succeeded in effecting a reduction of 124 millions in the Budget of 1871, voted by the Legislative Body under the Empire. No alterations have been made in the Budget of the Ministry of War, which will amount, as before, to 371,557,177f.

The committee has voted that a stamp of 10c. should be affixed on all bills above 10f. It is estimated that this duty, similar to the one now in force in England, will yield in France at least quite as much as in the former country.

The Minister of the Interior has sent a circular to the Prefects of the departments occupied by the Germans. In this document M. Lambrecht, while recommending his subordinates to display the utmost activity in verifying any acts of provocation which may be imputed to their fellow-citizens, invites them at the same time to order the police commissioners and officers of the gendarmerie carefully to collect all information which may be furnished them of improper conduct on the part of the German troops, and to transmit a copy to the German commanders, with a demand that the offenders be brought to justice.

A bill has been brought in to the Assembly by the Minister of Commerce to authorise foreign vessels to engage in the coasting trade in France, from July 20 to Oct. 31, owing to the defective state of the railway system.

A petition, signed by several of the leading inhabitants of Metz in favour of Rossel, the late Communist Minister of War, has been presented to M. Thiers. Rossel was one of the officers shut up in Metz, and was strongly opposed to the capitulation.

A terrible explosion, which caused considerable alarm in Paris, occurred on Monday week at the powder magazine of Vincennes. While a box of cartridges was being emptied out with proper precautions on to a heap of damaged cartridge, which had been wetted, the box exploded. The number of lives lost were three artillerymen, three others seriously and twenty-five slightly wounded. One civilian was killed and two women and three men were wounded. Another dreadful explosion occurred last Saturday at the petroleum-works at Rheims, by which fifty persons were killed or wounded.

According to *La France*, M. Jules Favre recently called the attention of the Italian Government to the tone of some of the Italian journals with reference to the works going on at Civita Vecchia, and at the same time stated that France had no intention of interfering in the question of the temporal power, her only desire being to see the personal independence of the Pope secured. In reply, the Italian Minister explained that the only object of the works at Civita Vecchia was to demolish some old fortifications. With regard to the Holy See, any suggestions of the French Government would be received with deference.

The heat in Paris is very great, and several deaths have occurred from apoplexy.

A despatch from Algiers says that the insurrection is now almost entirely suppressed. In three districts of the province of Constantine the insurgents still held out; but two columns had been sent against them, and an encounter had taken place, in which the troops were successful. The French army in Africa is now said to amount to 20,000 men.

## ITALY.

In the Italian papers of the 12th a letter is published, in which the Pope prohibits the reading of the Liberal journals, especially those printed in Rome. The letter, which is dated June 30, is addressed to Cardinal Patrizi, who is requested by his Holiness to send a circular on the subject to the clergy, in order that they may apprise their parishioners of the prohibition. This circular is also given. Pius IX. says in his letter that there are now in Rome a number of impious men, freethinkers, and sectaries from all parts, who are intent upon overthrowing and profaning the Church and insulting its ministers; and who are desirous of disseminating the poison of their hypocritical and deceitful doctrines through the medium of their papers. The clergy are therefore to prohibit the reading of those papers, and are to make known that any disregard of this prohibition is not a venial, but a grave, offence.

It is stated in the *Riforma* that there is every probability that the great tunnel under Mont Cenis will be opened on Sept. 5 next, if the arrangements at present made be not changed. The ceremony is to be accompanied by some little display. To meet the necessary expenses the Italian Government will, it is said, give a sum of 10,000f., and the municipality of Turin a similar amount. With these and other subscriptions, fêtes will be organised; there will be a flower show, a cattle show, and an industrial exhibition, in which the manufactures of the principal cities in Italy will be represented. Not the slightest apprehension is felt with regard to the ventilation of the tunnel, and a new time bill for the trains which will pass through it is already being drawn up.

## SPAIN.

There is likely to be another Ministerial crisis at Madrid, Senors Martos and Zorilla having sent in their resignations. The Budget was carried on Saturday by a large majority. It is reported that the assassin of Marshal Prim has been discovered and arrested.

## BELGIUM.

The Foreign Minister of Belgium stated in the Chamber, on

Tuesday, that the Government had deemed it its duty to re-establish the passport system, in order to prevent the entrance into Belgium of individuals whose presence might be attended with inconvenience.

## THE NETHERLANDS.

In the sitting of the First Chamber, on Tuesday evening, the members, at the demand of the Government, decided, by 16 votes against 15, to postpone the discussion of the treaty ceding the Guinea coast to England.

## GERMANY.

The triumphal entry of the Bavarian troops into Munich took place on Sunday. The weather was fine, and the popular enthusiasm is said to have been indescribable. The Prince Imperial of Germany was present. After the parade held by the King, the Imperial Crown Prince, in the name of the Emperor, presented to General von der Tann and five officers of inferior rank the decoration of the Iron Cross of the first class. At the Siegesthor the Burgomaster (Erhardt) delivered an address to the King and the Crown Prince. After the triumphal entry a military banquet was given at the Residenz. The toast of "The Victorious Army and its Leaders," proposed by the King, was replied to by the Crown Prince in a long speech, which was received with general enthusiasm, at the conclusion of which he proposed the toast of "The King." On the appearance of the King and Crown Prince at the theatre there was another ovation. At a reference in the prologue to the hopes which the empire placed in the Crown Prince, the King, standing up in presence of the audience, held out his right hand to the Crown Prince, when tumultuous applause filled the house. The illumination of the city was the most brilliant ever known in Munich: not one house remained unlighted. At half-past ten the Court and their illustrious guest, with an escort, passed through the city. On this occasion, as on all others, the appearance of the Crown Prince caused the utmost enthusiasm among the multitude, which had assembled from all parts of the country.

The semi-official *North German Gazette* publishes a leading article in which it discusses the attitude of the German Episcopate at the Oecumenical Council, and says:—"The Bishops know that by their abrupt application of the new dogma they drive the Government into the conflict. The State should not encroach upon the domain of belief; on the other hand, the Church must respect the boundaries which divide her from the State. Such encroachments upon the province of the State as are caused by the dogma of infallibility must be repelled by the political power. In this way a conflict arises, but there is no question of persecuting the Church; on the contrary, by the new dogma the State is placed under pressure and, indeed, forced into self-defence."

## AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Delegation succeeded, on Tuesday, in attaining to a complete agreement with the decisions of the Hungarian Delegation, and both these bodies have now passed the whole Financial Bill, which fixes the entire amount of the Estimates for the year 1872 at 93,438,000 florins. The Delegations held their last sitting on Wednesday.

## AMERICA.

The Bureau of Agriculture estimates the cotton crop as from 2½ to 3½ million bales, according to the weather during the remainder of the season. With average weather the result will probably be 2,900,000 bales.

The New York papers publish intelligence from Jamaica, according to which the Government is advised that the negro squatters intend to attack the Judges at Morant Bay if the decision in the pending cases is against them. According to the same papers it is reported that an insurrection was to begin there on the 19th inst., and the Government was making preparations to meet the emergency. The constabulary had received arms and ammunition, the troops had been ordered to be in readiness, and the Governor was determined to teach them a terrible lesson if they rose.

## INDIA.

Yakob Khan entered Cabul on the night of July 5. He came before his father, the Ameer, alone, bearing a copy of the Koran. Nothing important occurred at the first interview.

**IRISH FARMERS.**—The Irish Board of Public Works publish in their reports this year a return received from Mr. Prendergast, their inspector for the north-western district, noticing that among the farmers generally there is a taste for better clothes, food, and furniture than was ever thought of twenty years ago. The consumption of tea, coffee, and sugar, as well as of bread and meat, has immensely increased; and many who find no means of indulging in this better style of living emigrate to America, though they could stay if they were content with their former condition. The prices of stock, butter, eggs, bacon, and poultry have been so much higher than formerly that the inspector believes there is more money among the farmers in Ireland than at any former time. Commercial travellers say that the shops depending on the rural population are doing an excellent trade; and as soon as a more settled feeling about land begins to prevail, the inspector anticipates a rapid increase in the building of dwelling-houses for farmers and labourers, which is the most crying want at present. Speaking generally, there is, as yet, no great inclination to expend money on land in the occupation of tenants, partly from the scarcity and increased cost of labour, and partly from the unwillingness to improve tenants' farms lest a payment should be demanded at the expiration of the tenancies.

**MILITARY EDUCATION UNDER THE PURCHASE SYSTEM.**—A military correspondent writes thus to the *Times*, under date of July 18:—"I have just had the unexpected pleasure of witnessing an inspection in Hyde Park of, I think, three battalions of her Majesty's Guards. Being a soldier myself, I was anxious to see in what way, if any, these, our pattern regiments, have adapted their movements to modern requirements. I wanted to see what difference there was between their drill now and their enemies are armed with the breech-loader and when they had the muzzle-loader. I was much surprised to see no difference at all. I was astonished to see a company extended to cover the brigade, and the men remain standing on the top of some rising ground, quite exposed to their enemies' fire. The inspecting officer at once saw the error, and made the men fall back about ten yards, and lie down and take advantage of cover offered by some trees. I thought it should have been necessary to point out such an advantage to an officer commanding a company of her Majesty's Guards. I saw the everlasting old company squares brought up again, when I thought they were safely dead and buried. I heard several shots fired after the 'Cease firing' had sounded. My object, Sir, in writing is not to find fault with these magnificent troops, but to bring to notice how little our officers appear to have learnt from recent lessons; for if they had learnt them, skirmishers would not still be taught to deploy cover."

**THE CENTRAL TELEGRAPH STATION.**—The hourly increase of business at the Central Post Office Telegraph Station, in Telegraph-street, keeps the ingenuity of Mr. Soudamove and his large staff continually on the stretch to contrive new devices with which the "enemy" may be the more successfully contended against. A telegraphic message which comes say, from Sunderland, and the ultimate destination of which is Brighton, having been received in one part of the building, has to be copied there, and thence sent by hand to another, upon which devolves the duty of transmitting news, public and private, to Brighton and its dependencies. This had to be done until very recently by boys, and it was, of course, hard to avoid a good deal of noise, bustle and confusion, not to speak of delay. To obviate the difficulty, Mr. Culley, the engineer of the department, has been taken into counsel, and has contrived an apparatus something like the gearing of a cotton factory, but still more like the tapes of a printing machine, which, going in and out along the walls and ceilings from the bottom to the top of the building, carries along with it the message which has just been received from one place and has to be transmitted to another. The continuous sailing of these despatches along the ceiling has a very singular effect. There are the necessary rows of small pulleys at the corners, and a simple but clever application of weights to keep the tapes at the proper tension in all weathers. The whole works with perfect certainty and rapidity, and produces an immense economy of time and a great simplification of operations. The following official statement of the business done during the quarter ending the 1st of the present month will show how important any improvement that results in economy of time is in the great Central Telegraph Office. It appears that for the three months ended July 1 the total number of messages forwarded over the postal telegraph system was 2,808,798, against 2,726,639 for the same period of last year; being an increase of no less than 82,159. The estimated revenue for the period in question is respectively £163,636 and £135,788, being an increase of £27,848 in favour of the quarter just ended. This, it should be remarked, is altogether irrespective of the revenue derived from the rental of special and private wires, and from the news service of the whole country.

## DID THE COMMUNE SET FIRE TO PARIS?

"A COMMUNALIST," whose first letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette* in defence of the Paris Commune we reprinted a week or two ago, in a further communication to the same journal vindicates the members of the Commune from the charge of planning the destruction of the city. He says:—

"Has it ever struck those who believe that Paris was maliciously set on fire, and that the incendiaries were only frustrated in their design by the rapid advance of the troops to the heart of the city, that, in spite of all the soldiers in the world, such a design could have been carried out with the greatest facility? Has it also appeared to the promoters of the version that the Commune had secretly concocted a plan to burn and blow up Paris that, if such had been the case, no earthly power could have prevented them from accomplishing their purpose? This sole reason would amply suffice to destroy the probability of their allegations, which are based on no other evidence than the foolish and thoughtless words of a young contributor of the *Cri du Peuple*, and on their own imagination. Paris, as is well known, has two parts: the external and visible city, and the subterranean town (the drains), which is composed of innumerable and complicated streets. When a man enters the drains at the Madeleine he can emerge in the open air at St. Mandé. If really the insurrectional leaders intended to bury the vanquished revolution in a heap of ashes, they would undoubtedly have taken preliminary measures, laid a train of fulminate or nitro-glycerine in the drains, and by this means the total destruction of Paris would have become the work of a moment. A match applied to the train of powder would have sufficed, and in a few minutes the entire capital would have perished and the army with it. Why, then, did not the Commune, whose specialty was rapine and murder, employ the splendid resources which were in their hands to carry out the alleged plan? Has an atom of explosive matter been found in the drains? Is the famous plan supported by documentary evidence? Questions which hitherto have remained unanswered, and for very good reasons too."

"During the course of the murderous week the French press announced, with transports of grief, that almost every monument in Paris was destroyed; that the Sainte Chapelle, which is untouched, was a heap of smoking cinders; that St. Sulpice and St. Eustache Churches, the Odéon and Châtelet Theatres, the Mont de Piété, the picture galleries of the Louvre, the Luxembourg, the Colonne de la Bastille, the Observatory, were completely burnt down. Everyone who has lately visited Paris knows that all these monuments still exist, and bear no marks of fire. 'The inside of Notre Dame Cathedral, that marvel of Gothic architecture, had been saturated with petroleum, and the insurgents were only deterred from their resolution to burn it by the courageous resistance of a portier and the director of Hôtel Dieu Hospital.' Not a drop of petroleum was poured in Notre Dame. General Lisbonne was alleged to have gone to the Gaité Theatre (he was an actor there formerly) in order to burn it; but the prayers of the providential porter, who, somehow or other, always found himself in the way, had softened the heart of this hardened criminal. Now, General Lisbonne was on the Rive Gauche from beginning to end, and was killed there. So, unless the poor fellow was able to be present in two different places at the same time, the story of his ruffianly conduct on the Rive Droite is of pure phantasy. Orders for the burning of different monuments were said to have been found on Delescluze's person. It is strange, then, that Delescluze, who, according to general testimony, walked up to a barricade with the purpose of meeting his death, should not have executed the orders before dying. These false statements were calculated to throw oil upon the flames, and raised to a still higher degree the reactionist frenzy."

No technical knowledge, but commonsense, is necessary to understand that when a desperate battle waged with the modern engines of human destruction is transferred from the field to an immense town like Paris, conflagration must ensue. It is the natural consequence of street warfare. When a barricade is abandoned its defenders take good care to set it on fire so as to stop for a time the progress of the advancing party. Likewise, it is a common proceeding in such cases to set fire to any house occupied by the enemy; it is the only way to dislodge them. Besides, the explosion of shells contributes as much as anything else to a general conflagration. According to the evidence of three very trustworthy witnesses, the combustion of the Tuileries commenced on Sunday morning, May 22, at four o'clock a.m., and the palace was ignited by the bursting obuses which were sent from the Trocadero and the Champs Elysées by the invading enemy. According to the testimony of the same persons, four gun-boats protected by the arches of the Pont-au-Change bombarded the Hôtel de Ville for three consecutive hours at the rate of a shell per minute. After receiving nearly 400 shells, the entire burning of the above building is by no means extraordinary. The Federals retreated, of course, into the largest buildings, as resistance was more effective in points affording the double advantage of shelter against the artillery and a commanding view down several thoroughfares; the whole fury of the attack bore down, of course, on these particular points, and the conflagration severely raised by the enemy's guns often obliged the Federals to retreat. The Préfecture de Police was also bombarded in the same manner, and there is no doubt that its combustion had a similar origin. If any orders were issued by members of the Commune for the destruction of some buildings, it was for military motives; if orders to the effect of setting fire to certain houses were found on Delescluze or any other man, I am convinced, I am sure, they were issued for strategical reasons, and not for the sake of wanton destruction. As I said before, the utter destruction of Paris was in the hands of the Commune; nothing could hinder them from accomplishing it; and if I had no other proof, I should consider this one decisive enough to throw down the whole edifice of fictitious statement on that subject."

"To resume, in a few words, the object of my argument: I maintain that no intentional burning took place; that the destruction of buildings (if any were destroyed by the Federals) was required for urgent strategical reasons, and that the greater part of the conflagration was done by the artillery of the army of Versailles. Is it necessary to say that if, against my conviction, any foul play took place, it did not emanate from the Commune, and that I decline complicity in any such acts both in the name of my friends and in my own?"

"As for the unfortunate women who were shot under the accusation of throwing petroleum in the streets and cellars, I again express my utter disbelief of their guilt. Even if a poor broken-hearted mother whose children were murdered, whose husband was killed, attempted, in a transport of grief and madness, to commit such a deed, I should find some excuse for her. But this petroleum terror was only a pretext to give vent to the barbarity of the soldiery and to palliate it. How could fire be set to a house by throwing petroleum through the grating of the cellar? Petroleum is not an explosive fluid unless its preparation be defective; therefore, after pouring the inflammatory oil it became necessary to throw a lighted match after it. Could that be done without instantaneous detection? As for the use of petroleum made by firemen in their engines, the charge is too frivolous to be noticed."

"I will not speak of the cruelty of reaction—the facts speak for themselves, and your correspondents have related only too truthfully what took place. Thousands were summarily executed, and thousands are now awaiting transportation or trial."

**MONUMENT TO WASHINGTON IRVING.**—The ceremony of publicly unveiling a colossal bust of Washington Irving, at Prospect Park, Brooklyn, took place, on Saturday, July 1, in presence of about 10,000 persons, including a large number of public officials and clergymen. The bust is a gift to the city from the Hon. Demas Barnes. It is supported on a pedestal of Aberdeen granite, and stands 15 ft. 6 in. high. The only inscription is the name of Irving on the pedestal. The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was among the speakers on the occasion. After various addresses had been given, a wreath of ivy from the walls of Westminster Abbey was placed on the brow of the statue by Master Washington Irving Bishop, a godson of Washington Irving, and the ceremonies then concluded.



## THE LATE FESTIVITIES AT BERLIN.

We this week publish two more illustrations of scenes during the triumphal entry of the troops into Berlin on the 15th ult. One of these Engravings represents the passage of the "composite" or representative battalion in their march through the city. This battalion, as our readers will remember, was composed of selected men from each corps in the German armies; and here is the description of an eye-witness of their passage and that of their gallant comrades through the streets:—

"Presently comes the staff of the Guards, with Prince Augustus of Wurtemberg at its head, and then follows the 1st Guard Infantry Regiment, marching, to the 'Entry of Paris March,' in formation of double fours. They are greeted by tremendous cheering and much waving of handkerchiefs. The second battalion has lost ground, and has to make it up at a brisk double, which the men seem to enjoy and the spectators too.

Yes, Berlin burghers, that is the pace and the spirit with which the Guards were wont to go at anything hostile that came in their way; and who ever saw them coming back? The 3rd Guard Infantry, a Berlin regiment, is very warmly greeted, with its ragged colours, as it follows its comrade regiment, and there are not a few women in its ranks, which look rather ragged in consequence. Right gallantly comes on the 'composite battalion,' amid a wildly enthusiastic ovation; and then follow the Guard Jäger, marching splendidly, but scudding under bare poles, in a sense, for every rag of their colours has been shot away, and all that is to the fore is the splintered staff. Von Medem heads his brigade, the 2nd, and after him come the 'Ladybirds,' the 2nd Guard Infantry, who have got the wish of their hearts at last and flown away home. At their head rides Count Kannitz. Staunch old Budritski is yet to come. Yes, here he is, with his keen eyes and white moustache; his head is not "in a bag" to-day, as it was one sortie day when I met him on the Aulney road.

There is something of the terrier about the face of him; but he does not burrow, he clears—witness that day when, with the banner of the Elizabeths in his hand, he cleared the Le Bourget barricade amid the storm of lead, with Kannitz by his side; and behind the Kaiser Alexander Regiment come on the Elizabeths themselves. Neither they nor the other 'Queen' regiment, the Königin Augusta, march home with the Colonels who led them—to both was Le Bourget fatal. Under the weeping willows by the Château of Arnonville lies gallant Zalusovski, Colonel of the Elizabeths, with eight of his officers around him. Count Waldersee, of the Augustas, recovered from one wound in Sedan, went down to rise no more at that awkward affair in the Le Blanc Mesnil road. But with Zalusovski the pith did not go out of the Elizabeths. Look at Von Altröck there at the head of the first battalion—the big man with as many lives as a cat. I wonder if the fourteen bullet-holes are mended yet in his macintosh. And at the head of the second



THE LATE MILITARY FESTIVITIES AT BERLIN: UNTER DEN LINDEN ON THE EVENING OF THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY.

battalion marches black Von Thummel *sui profusus, alieni appetens*, only not of pelf, but of blood."

The aspect of the grand thoroughfare of the Prussian capital—Unter den Linden—on the evening of the day of entry, is portrayed in our other Engraving. Of the scene here exhibited a correspondent says:—"I thought of many an illumination at home in England, and of more than one Fête Napoléon in Paris, when I passed down the Unter den Linden at ten o'clock at night. There were fireworks at the Brandenburger Thor, and a lime light glowed fiercely on the summit of the arch. A great crowd of people moved along the brightly illuminated streets. People of all ranks, the east end of the city and the west end jumbled together, pushed their way slowly up and down the avenue. Some few drunken men appeared here and there among their anxious friends, being led away with snatches of songs upon their lips. But most of the people were sober, though in great spirits, and it was a good sign for the future of Berlin that it bore success so calmly. The boys only, boys of under fifteen, made a real uproar with their joyous shouts."

## LAUNCH OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP CYCLOPS.

On Tuesday afternoon the ironclad double-turret ship Cyclops was launched by the Thames Shipbuilding Company from their dockyard at Blackwall. The launch was in every way successful. Miss Rolt, daughter of Mr. Peter Rolt, chairman of the company, christened the vessel. The Cyclops, though very similar in construction to the Magdala, built by the Thames Company under contract with the Indian Government for the protection of Bombay harbour, and delivered by them to the authorities there in February last, is the first of a class of ships to be known as the "Cyclops" class, and intended for home harbour service. Four of these vessels were ordered by the Admiralty in September last, of different firms, soon after the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war, and when a general European conflict seemed imminent. As under the circumstances the early completion of the vessels was considered a matter of great importance, the Thames Shipbuilding Company made every arrangement to push forward the work as rapidly as possible, and with such success that the Cyclops has been launched in the unprecedentedly short space of nine months

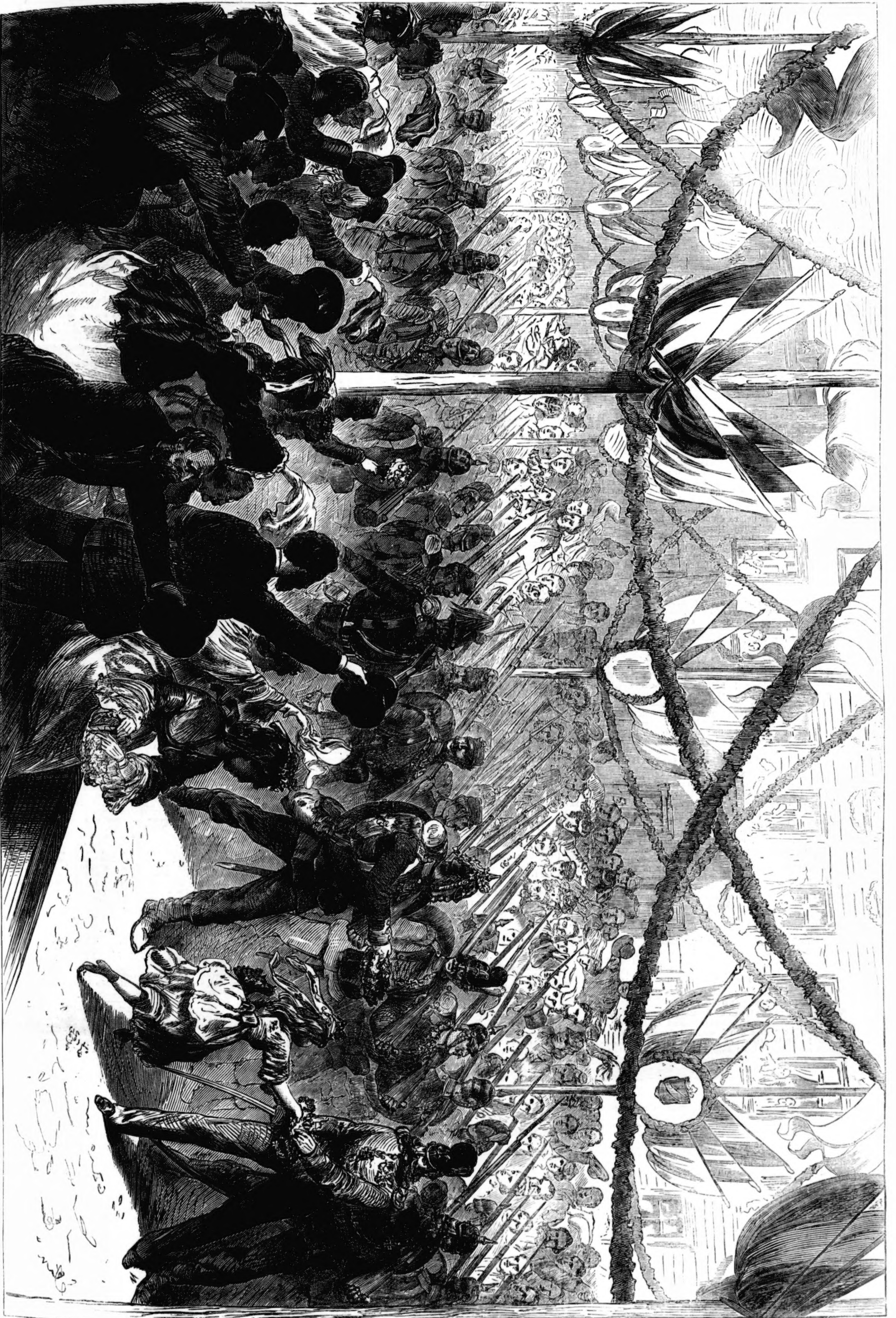
from the date of the first keel-plate being placed upon the blocks, and considerably within the contract time. The rapidity with which the works have been carried out will be better understood when we state that 1200 tons of ironwork have been put into the ship, the whole of the teak backing fitted to the hull, breastwork, turrets, &c., and upwards of 700 tons of armour already been fitted and bolted to the vessel.

The Cyclops is a double-turret ship, with a hull 225 ft. long and 45 ft. beam, with a belt of armour 7 ft. wide in two strakes, the upper one 8 in. thick and the lower one 6 in. thick amidships, tapering fore and aft. Above the hull is raised a breastwork 117 ft. by 34 ft., plated with 6 ft. 6 in. of armour, varying in thickness from 8 in. to 9 in. This breastwork protects the engines and machinery for working the turrets, which are built at each end of it, and are plated with 9 in. armour, thickened to 10 in. in the way of the ports; there is also a pilot-tower, 17 ft. in height, plated with 8 in. and 9 in. armour, for the protection of the officer who may be directing the movements of the ship.

The vessel is built with a water-tight double bottom amidships,



THE LATE FESTIVITIES AT BERLIN: GALA MARCH OF THE COMPOSITE OR REPRESENTATIVE BATTALION.





in addition to her numerous water-tight compartments, an arrangement the value of which has lately been so well proved in the case of the successful floating of the Agincourt off the Pearl Rock. Her engines are of 250-horse power nominal, by Messrs. Elder and Co., of Glasgow, and are calculated to give the vessel a speed of ten knots. Her principal dimensions are—length between perpendiculars, 225 ft.; breadth extreme, 45 ft.; and depth in hold, 16 ft. 2 in.; burden in tons, 2107 old measurement.

Her armament will consist of two 18-ton guns in each turret, her gun-fittings being of the most recent and improved construction. She will be ready for service in three months from the present time. Soon after she was launched she was taken in tow by three powerful steam-tugs and placed in the Victoria Docks.

#### INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 411.

##### SPEAKERS WHOM WE HEARD IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

LAST week we occasionally dropped into the House of Lords to listen for a while to the speeches upon the Army Bill, and were forcibly impressed by the difference between the debates and the conduct thereof on this subject in the Upper House and that which we had so long wearily to endure in the House of Commons. When we first visited the Upper House Lord Northbrook was speaking. Him we know. He was long in the House of Commons as Thomas George Baring, and when the Liberal party was in power always held office, and always did his work well. He was, too, a reasonably good speaker—of the argumentative sort. His one fault was that he spoke rather hurriedly. This fault, though, he has got rid of. A change from the atmosphere of the lower to that of the higher region has probably effected this cure. In the House of Commons Mr. Baring often had to speak to an impatient audience, and an impatient audience is apt to make hurried and sometimes even flurried speakers. In the Upper House the audience is rarely impatient, or rarely shows its impatience, but is calm, decorous, dignified. We were quite surprised to hear Lord Northbrook speak with so much calm composure. We were also in the House when Earl Russell spoke, and tried to hear him, but could not. We could hear his voice, of course, and occasionally a sentence came to us more or less perfect. The noble Earl, when he was in the House of Commons, was often heard but indistinctly by strangers in the gallery; and it is not surprising that he is heard less distinctly now; for his Lordship is ten years older than when he was called away from the Lower to the Upper House. He was then sixty-nine years old; he is now seventy-nine. Two facts in Earl Russell's life may be here noticed. When he was young he was so weakly that no one supposed that he would live to be an old man; and for many years this weakness continued. But when he got to be between sixty and seventy—nearer seventy than sixty, we fancy—he picked up amazingly, gathered flesh, and now he has nearly reached the age of four score, a greater age than any Russell has reached, it is said, for a century or more. The Duke of Cambridge moved the adjournment on Thursday week, and had therefore the right to begin the debate on Friday; but he gave way to Earl Russell, who had a long speech to make, and wished to deliver it before dinner. We had, too, the pleasure of being present when the Earl of Derby spoke. We have often heard his Lordship speak in the House of Commons; but, to our mind, he never spoke so well there as he did that night. There are several reasons why this should be so. In the House of Commons his Lordship had, like all other representatives, to think of his constituents. Now he has no constituents to think of. When he was in the Lower House his father was living, and, no doubt in deference to his illustrious parent, he refrained from speaking his mind. But now he himself is the Earl of Derby, and free from all parental restraint. Nor is he the man who will "narrow his mind, and to party give up what was meant for mankind." The noble Earl ranks as a Conservative; but, obviously, he is bound by no party ties. When he was a member of the Conservative Government he often shocked the Conservatives by the liberality of his opinions. We heard an old Conservative member of Parliament, on leaving the House of Lords after he had heard Lord Derby's speech, exclaim, "What a change! I little thought of hearing a Lord Derby make a speech like that." The main characteristic of Lord Derby's mind is, we think, wisdom—cold, clear wisdom. We once heard an old Tory say of him, "I don't like the fellow, he is so condemned (he used the shorter and more forcible word) sensible!" A great compliment this to the noble Earl; but surely no compliment to the Conservatives. These are all the speakers heard by us whom we care to notice here. And now a few words about the difference between the two Houses.

##### LOOK ON THIS PICTURE.

There was always a difference between the two Houses: the House of Lords has ever been calmer, more serene, decorous, dignified, than the House of Commons. But the difference has of late, and especially this year, widened. The House of Lords is the same as it ever was—at least in our time. But the House of Commons has got to be more disorderly, more noisy, more factious—has, in short, become, as the military men say, demoralised. In the House of Lords any peer, however tiresome a speaker he may be, is allowed to speak without interruption. The peers may not be listening to him; many of them may glide away; but he is not assailed by groans or cries of "Vide! vide!" Then, again, the Lords often applaud a speaker, but never frantically. The cheering is subdued and decorous; organised obstruction is unknown in the Upper House; nor do the Lords ever resort to successive motions for adjournment to stop a bill. In short, the minority always submit without question to the majority—as minorities in legislative assemblies ought to do. This is the House of Lords—a calm, decorous, dignified assembly of gentlemen. They have no speaker to decide upon questions of order and to demand obedience to rule. When a question of order arises, the peers settle it themselves. Questions of order, however, seldom do arise, and rebellion against order is never seen.

##### AND ON THIS.

Turn we now to the House of Commons, and what a difference! The House of Commons used to be called a dignified assembly; but the epithet "dignified" would be quite misapplied now. Dignified! It is often not even decorous. If the people of England could but have brought before them vividly the scenes which we frequently have in the House after midnight, they would be amazed; but of these doings the people are entirely ignorant. No reports of even what is said appear in the daily papers; whilst as to the scenes, they are simply indescribable. Happily, the princes and potentates of the world who come to the House never stop late. If they were to do so, and saw and heard what we have to see and hear, they would, we suspect, go away mentally exclaiming, "If this be a free House of Commons, we will have none of it." They, though, must have seen and heard much which was not at all commendatory of representative institutions. The Emperor of Brazil has been to the House twice; and on both occasions, happily, nothing important being under discussion, the debate was dull and decorous. The last time he was present he stopped until past midnight; and, knowing that a storm was ahead, we feared that he would sit on to the end. But at half-past twelve he departed and just missed a most creditable scene. But no more of this now. We have it in our mind to recur to this matter to discover the causes of this disorganisation, and show what must be the inevitable consequence thereof if it be not reformed.

##### MR. BENTINCK AGAIN.

On Thursday evening, the 13th, dull Mr. George Bentinck, who some years ago we all thought was hors de combat—out of the fight for life, but has now suddenly appeared amongst us regaled—got up for us a preliminary scene. The questions were over, the Speaker was just about to call upon his clerk to read the orders of the day, when Mr. Bentinck rose to ask the First

Lord of the Treasury when he intended to proceed with the Army Estimates, and said that, as he wished to make a few remarks, he would put himself in order by moving that the House do now adjourn; and then he went on in his dull, persistent, tiresome, but untiring fashion, moving slowly forward, like a heavy Norfolk cart-horse, to comment upon the shortcomings of her Majesty's Ministers and other matters, somewhat relevant, but more quite irrelevant. Once Mr. Rathbone impetuously rose to ask Mr. Speaker whether it was open to the honourable member to discuss every possible question on a motion for adjournment. Whereupon Mr. Speaker rose, not to call the honourable member for Liverpool to order, but to recommend Mr. Bentinck to exercise discretion and forbearance, as if such a recommendation would have any effect upon Mr. Bentinck. It had no effect. The honourable gentleman, checked but for a moment, again rose and resumed his tale, and dragged his slow length along for another quarter of an hour, 200 members impatiently sitting around him, and no doubt wishing—at least all the sensible men amongst them, as we heartily did—that the gout, which seized him five years ago, and compelled him to take to his yacht, would arrest him again. True, the gout is painful, and we ought not to wish even our enemies to be afflicted with pain; but better that one man should suffer than that 200 men should have to endure such an infliction as this, and the business of a great nation be thus obstructed. Moreover, a voyage in the honourable member's smart yacht always, we have learned, drives away his gout. Beneficent podagra, will you not help us in our distress?

##### GLADSTONE'S UNWISDOM.

Of course we had a discussion. The Ballot Bill was the first order of the day, and that, you know, is by all means to be obstructed. Probably to this end Mr. Bentinck rose. The hon. member for West Norfolk had asked the First Lord of the Treasury a question. Mr. Gladstone was, in common courtesy, bound to answer. But why did he not answer shortly, succinctly, as Palmerston would have done in such circumstances? Why did the right hon. gentleman taunt his dull opponent? Why did he expatiate? Alas! our unquiet Premier has got to be painfully wordy and wearisome of late. If some of his answers were not kindly winnowed and compressed by the thoughtful, considerate reporters, the world would be surprised. "I can," said a reporter to us, "give Gladstone's answer in half the number of words he takes to give it." After Gladstone came Sir James Elphinstone, a speaker somewhat of the Bentinck type, in so far as he, too, is wearisome and inconsequential; and then rose tough-lunged, long-winded, irrepressible Mr. Newdegate, to give us, as his wont is whenever an opportunity occurs, a solemn, obsequious homily, of which we shall say nothing here.

##### DISRAELI'S RETORT.

Mr. Disraeli, to our surprise, arose to throw his shield over the honourable member for West Norfolk. We say to our surprise, because there is a feud between these two; and, whilst Bentinck has often in a marked manner shown his dislike to Disraeli, Disraeli has in an equally marked manner displayed, albeit in a silent way, something like contempt for Bentinck. But Gladstone had spoken, and had, in truth, laid himself open to criticism; and therefore Disraeli rose, not so much perhaps to defend Bentinck as to pitch into Gladstone. Disraeli was angry, or, rather, had worked himself up into an artificial rage. He was not really angry, only histrionically angry; but he simulated anger well, and performed his part effectually. After enumerating, with singular lucidity, and satirising with pungency, not wanting in wit, all the shortcomings of the Government—their large promise and small performances, noting as he went along the measures which they had proposed and had to lay aside—he thus broke forth, raising his voice almost to a shriek: "Why are all these things neglected? Because you are engaged in something else. What is that something else? It is the ballot—a measure merely to put in practice the ideas of a past generation. Why is this bill to absorb all our attention? Why is all this old stuff brought before us? Only, because the Prime Minister has been converted to an expiring faith, and has passionately embraced a corpse." O rare Ben! had you taken to the histrionic instead of the political stage, how you would have brought down the house! The Conservative party cheered this histrionic rant immensely. It seemed as if it would never have done cheering. The leader of the Conservative party has not spoken much this Session. At the beginning of the Session he was not in good trim. During those long debates on the Army Bill he seldom spoke. In truth, though he had to vote with the Opposition, he had no sympathy with them, agreeing, no doubt, with his friend Lord Derby. But he has lost none of his old power. The speech which we have noticed was as clever as those speeches which, twenty-five years ago, made him famous. Nor has age (he is sixty-six years old) diminished his physical power: his voice is still strong and clear, and his action as energetic as ever.

##### THE DIVISION BELL—UP AND AWAY.

On Monday night the House was again in Committee on the Ballot Bill—hard at work, but doing little. "What are you doing here?" said a peer, who had sauntered down to the House of Commons, to a friend. "Getting on at all?" "No," was the reply; "we are marking time, not marching." And this was not far from the truth. There was a large number of members down that night, but comparatively few remained in their own House; nearly half of the whole were in the House of Lords listening to the debate there upon the Army Bill. A pleasant relief this from the irksomeness of waiting for divisions. But the pleasure was not unalloyed; for, whilst these gentlemen were absorbed by an eloquent speech, suddenly the tinkling of the House of Commons' division bell would be heard, and then it was "up and away," as fast as they could scamper, down the Lords' corridor, across the central hall, along the Commons' corridor, and across the Commons' lobby. The members who stood at the bar of the Upper House could do the distance easily in the time allowed, but those who stood at the foot of the throne or sat in the gallery had their work to do; and not unfrequently a member, fat and scant of breath, would arrive, distressed and blown, to find the door shut. Some of our readers may ask how in such case these gentlemen could know what the question was on which they were called to vote. The answer is, they did not want to know. Just inside the door stand the whips of the two parties to tell their respective friends which way they are to go. "We are ayes," says Mr. Glyn; "We are noes," says Mr. Noel; or vice versa, as the case may be; and what more is required? Some over-squeamish members will never vote unless they understand the question, but these are few in number. "Follow your leader" is a rule almost universally obeyed here.

##### CORRIGENDUM.

We made a slight mistake last week in speaking of Mr. Tomline's progenitor. Bishop Pretyman was Pitt's secretary and biographer, not Peel's.

### Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### THE ARMY REGULATION BILL.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Army Regulation Bill was resumed by Earl Russell, who described the provisions of the measure as vague and ambiguous, and contended that, notwithstanding some objections inherent to the purchase system, it would be difficult to find a substitute that would not be attended with still greater drawbacks. The chief merit of the system, in his opinion, was that it brought into the Army a class of men who had a stake in the country; whilst for those who were not so well off, after they had passed their best years in the service, it made provision for them in their old age. The provisions relating to the militia reserve forces met his approval, as far as they went; but they were wholly inadequate to make an efficient reserve, except after the lapse of many years. The Duke of Cambridge owned that he felt in a position of delicacy and

responsibility, for if the bill were to pass it would enormously increase his duties as Commander-in-Chief; and to administer them to the satisfaction of either the Army or the country he must be absolutely free from all political relations. It was impossible not to feel that our Army system was not adequate to the necessities of modern military science and warfare. The great requirement of the day was a reserve and a ready power of expansion, and this could not be secured under the old system of long service. He believed that a flow of promotion might be secured under another system than purchase; and, if so, there could not be a doubt as to the policy of abolishing purchase. The terms offered by the bill were characterised as most fair and equitable. The purchase system was, he admitted, the main obstacle to remodelling the Army and establishing a proper reserve; and the bill would, he thought, lay down the principle on which such an army as was now needed might be raised.

The bill having been supported by Earl Delawarr, Lord Stanley of Alderley, the Earl of Camperdown, and the Marquis of Huntly, and opposed by the Duke of Rutland, Lord Hardinge, Lord Vivian, the Duke of Beaufort, Lord Melville, and the Duke of Manchester.

The Earl of Derby owned that, with all deference to the opinions of others, he saw many objections to the system of purchase. He believed that, sooner or later, the governing body of the Crown would decide to abolish it, and he asked himself what would be the gain of throwing out the bill for a year or two if they should be called upon hereafter to pass it under very much more inconvenient circumstances. He approved of the course of the Government in introducing the bill, though he did not consider an Act of Parliament necessary, seeing that purchase did not rest upon a statute, and might be swept away by a resolution of the House of Commons without the assent of their Lordships. Further, he could not comprehend how the abolition of a money qualification could make any difference in the regimental system or impair the efficiency of the Army. On the contrary, he rather feared that this qualification was often accompanied by a deficiency in other qualifications which were much more essential.

The Earl of Carnarvon complained that the bill did not attempt to deal with the great question of army organisation, which he believed was not affected by purchase in the slightest degree; and expressed his opinion that their Lordships would be justified in rejecting the measure on the ground of its crude and fragmentary character, and because of the vast and undefined expenditure to which it would commit the country.

Lord Lawrence spoke in favour of the bill, believing that the abolition of purchase was the only security for the future of the British Army. He also approved of the principle of selection based upon a high standard of military education.

The debate was then adjourned, on the motion of Lord Abinger, until Monday.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House, at the morning sitting, resumed in Committee the consideration of the Parliamentary and Municipal Elections Bill, taking up the third clause, to which a number of amendments, on points of detail, were proposed. After some hours spent in discussing these amendments, the further consideration of the measure was postponed.

At the evening sitting the House was engaged in considering a motion, proposed by Mr. W. O. GORE, on the subject of Irish railways, which, after some debate, was withdrawn.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, when the Marquis of Hartington moved the vote for Irish education, and explained the proposals of the Government for increasing the salaries and improving the status of certain classes of national school teachers.

MONDAY, JULY 17.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### THE ARMY REGULATION BILL.

Lord Abinger, who resumed the debate on this measure, condemned the Government proposals, especially as to the abolition of purchase, in which he was supported by the Earl of Lucan, the Duke of Northumberland, Earl Brownlow, Lord Strathairn, and the Marquis of Salisbury. The speakers in support of the bill were Lord Longford (Under-Secretary for War in the late Conservative Government), the Duke of Cleveland, the Duke of Argyll, and Earl Granville. On a division, the Duke of Richmond's amendment was carried by a majority of 24—155 to 130.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. Gladstone availed himself of the motion to discharge the order for the Committee on the Debtors' (Ireland) Bill to make a statement in reference to the state of public business. Quoting precedents to show that in former years the Estimates and many important measures had been considered at a period of the Session later than that at which they had at present arrived, he explained that, if the Household Parliament was as patriotic and industrious as its predecessors had been, there was still "a large margin of time" available for the prosecution of the more important bills on the paper. Referring, then, to rumours in reference to the abandonment of the Ballot Bill, Mr. Gladstone asserted that they were without foundation, and added that the Government would adhere to their intention of proceeding with the measure, but that there were several others which, regard being had to the period of the Session, it would not be possible to push forward. These were the Debtors' (Ireland) Bill, the Blackwater (Compensation) Bill, the Inclosure Law Amendment Bill, the Coal-Mines and Metalliferous Mines Regulation Bills, the Pharmacy Bill, and the Bankruptcy (Ireland) Amendment Bill.

##### THE BALLOT BILL.

The House then went into Committee on the Parliamentary and Municipal Elections Bill, resuming the consideration of the second sub-section of the third clause relating to the form of the voting-paper, and after some discussion, an amendment, moved by Mr. C. BENTINCK, that each ballot-paper should contain the name of one candidate only, was negatived without a division. Mr. CHARLEY then moved to strike out the word "alphabetical," with the view of subsequently changing the order in which the candidates' names should be printed, but the proposition found little favour with the Committee, having been rejected by 71 to 16. Mr. McMAHON next moved that the number of the candidate should be printed within the square containing his name (as practised in Australia), and to this the Government assented. The Opposition, however, called for a division, but were defeated by 89 to 55. An amendment, by Sir H. SELWIN-IBBESEN, that "the squares opposite the names of the candidates shall be printed in the colours of the candidates," was supported by Mr. Disraeli, opposed by Mr. Forster, and rejected by 187 to 122. At the instance of Mr. C. Bentinck, Mr. FORSTER consented to expunge the third sub-section, providing that the ballot-papers should be bound up in books or otherwise arranged so as to be conveniently issued to the voters. Mr. C. BENTINCK moved to omit that part of section 5 which made provision for compartments in the polling-booths, but it was negatived by 220 to 143. Mr. G. BENTINCK subsequently proposed to strike out the words providing a separate compartment for every 150 voters. This was also subsequently negatived by 219 to 115. Progress was then reported.

TUESDAY, JULY 18.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Progress was made with a large number of bills, including the Private Chapels Bill, which was read the second time; the Public Schools Act (1868) Amendment Bill, the Prevention of Crime Bill, and the Pedlars' Certificates Bill, which were passed through Committee. The Clerk of the Peace Bill was read the third time and passed.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Sir G. GREY gave notice that he would, on Thursday, at the morning sitting, ask whether, as the House of Commons had sanctioned the terms of compensation proposed to be given to officers of the Army, the Government would now take measures to prevent the continued violation of the law involved in the payment of over-regulation price.

The House then resumed in Committee the consideration of the ballot clause in the Parliamentary and Municipal Elections Bill. Numerous divisions were taken on amendments, all of which, however, were negatived, and but little progress had been made with the sub-sections of the clause when the Chairman left the chair. On the House reassembling at nine it was counted out.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

After Mr. H. R. Brand had withdrawn his measure for improving the registration of Parliamentary voters in counties, nearly the remainder of the sitting was occupied with the consideration of Sir C. Dilke's bill for amending the system of registration in boroughs, which got through Committee just before the time allotted to controversial business had expired. Mr. Charley withdrew his measure for the prevention of baby-farming.

THURSDAY, JULY 20.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### THE ARMY REGULATION BILL.

Earl GRANVILLE communicated to their Lordships that Government had resolved to abolish the purchase system in the Army. He alluded at some length to the facts of the case as laid before this House by the Under-Secretary for War, and said it had been pointed out that all that was asked from Parliament was an indemnity for the officers. Her Majesty had this day consented to sign a warrant to put an end to the purchase and sale of commissions. He hoped that their Lordships would, now that no responsibility rested upon them, calmly consider the bill, which was still before their Lordships. An early day would be fixed for its second reading.

The Duke of Richmond declined now to express any opinion on the matter, but confessed that he was surprised at the course which the Government had pursued.

Several bills were advanced a stage.



## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE ABOLITION OF PURCHASE.—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.

Sir G. GREY asked her Majesty's Government whether, this House having sanctioned their proposal for the indemnification of officers on the abolition of purchase in the Army, they intend to take measures to prevent the future violation of the law involved in the continued payment of over-regulation prices for commissions.

Mr. GLADSTONE, who on rising was received with cheers, entered into a long reply, in the course of which he stated that, after consideration, the Government had resolved to advise her Majesty to take the decisive step of cancelling the warrant under which purchase was legal (loud cheers). That advice had been accepted and acted upon by her Majesty (renewed cheers); and a new warrant had been framed in terms conformable to the law, so that it was his duty to announce, on the part of the Government, that at present purchase no longer existed (loud and continued cheers). When he said in the Army no longer existed, he was reminded by his right hon. friend that purchase no longer existed, but he did not mean that it was extinguished (Mr. Cardwell) to explain that a day had been named—namely, November 1 from the present moment—and after which there could be no purchase or of the present year—in the British Army. Although the amendment of the sale of commissions had been carried in the House of Lords, he was advised that it would not prevent the bill from being proceeded with, and it was that would remain to be seen how the House of Lords would act under the circumstances which he had stated, and whether, purchase being abolished, they would go on with the other portions of the bill. The Government would give competent time to the House of Lords to consider what course they would pursue, and it would not be becoming of him to state what the Government would do provided the House of Lords failed to proceed with the bill. In conclusion, he begged to say that, come what might, under all the circumstances, the Government would use the best means in their power, mindful of the honourable pledges they had given, to secure at the hands of Parliament just and liberal terms for the officers (loud cheers).

Mr. DISRAELI entered his protest against the course the Prime Minister had taken, and said that Minister was most unwise who, being baffled in passing an important measure through one House of the Legislature, took upon himself the responsibility and danger of advising the Queen to exercise her prerogative and set the opinion of that House at defiance (loud and continued cheers).

Lord ELCHO wanted to know if the Prime Minister would allow the House an opportunity of discussing the course they had taken.

Mr. GLADSTONE said although the amendment which had been carried in the House of Lords no doubt impugned the conduct of the Government, yet it did not assert the policy of maintaining purchase in the Army; and, as the Government were supported by a majority of the House of Commons in discountenancing the payment of over-regulation prices and abolishing purchase in the Army, they had determined, with a full sense of responsibility, to act in the way they had done (loud cheers). If the noble Lord (Elcho) desired to impugn the conduct of the Government, let him give notice of a vote of want of confidence in the Government, and every opportunity should be afforded him for discussing such a motion.

After some further discussion the subject dropped, and the House went into Committee on the Ballot Bill.

boldly prophesied that if such legislation as that of Mr. Bruce's Licensing Bill—referring to the police clauses—Earl Morley's Bill, and Mr. Charley's Baby-Farming measure ever become effective, this country will rapidly find itself undergoing processes of demoralisation which are at present more familiar in New England than in Old England.

The "Eltham Tragedy" and the "Bayswater Tragedy" can scarcely be passed over without a word of comment. We fancy most deliberate-minded people will regret that English juries cannot, as Scotch juries can, return a verdict of "not proven." We have no moral doubt that the Bayswater culprit stabbed Mr. Moon; but it seems to us that the evidence fell nearly as short of the legal mark in one case as the other. It also seems to us that the sentence was extremely severe. The culprit was on her trial, not for a breach of certain social rules, but for manslaughter; and one fourth of the sentence passed in this case has been thought sufficient in a score of instances where the husband has stabbed the wife or the wife the husband. The public memory is short. It is not many months since in this very column we called attention to a case in which a man was found guilty of murder and sentenced to death upon evidence fully as strong as that upon which the Bayswater prisoner has been condemned. We urged that the verdict went far ahead of the evidence, and a week or two afterwards we had the satisfaction of recording that, in consequence of representations made by the Judge who tried the case, the prisoner had been set free. At all events, eight years' penal servitude is an excessive sentence, and, unless it be reduced, the prisoner's chief comfort must be that she will probably not live through half of it.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY has conferred the order of the Garter upon the Emperor of Brazil.

THE CROWN PRINCES OF GERMANY left London for Osborne last Saturday, on a visit to her Majesty.

THE HEALTH OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS CHRISTIAN is causing much anxiety to the members of the Royal family. It is feared that the Princess is suffering from an affection of the lungs, and the medical men in attendance upon her Royal Highness have, it is understood, recommended an entire change of air.

THE CROWN PRINCE OF SAXONY has been raised to the rank of Field Marshal in the Russian army by the Emperor Alexander.

THE MARQUIS OF LORNE has accepted the vacant presidency of the Alexandra Institution for the Blind.

EARL RUSSELL is about to publish an historical essay on "The Foreign Policy of England, from 1670 to 1870."

THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE laid the memorial stone of the new buildings of the West-End Hospital on Saturday. Archbishop Manning, in the course of a brief address, contrasted the small amount of hospital accommodation with the vast population of the metropolis.

MR. GOSCHEN, on Tuesday, presided over a meeting of the subscribers to the Captain memorial fund, at which resolutions were carried adding some names to the executive committee and indicating the nature of the monument, which is to be placed in St. Paul's Cathedral.

LORD SHAFTESBURY presided, on Tuesday night, at the annual meeting of the Working Men's Lord's Day Rest Association, which was held at Exeter Hall. The report expressed an opinion that the Act of Charles II. ought rather to be amended than repealed.

COLONEL LOYD LINDSAY entertained, at the Ship, at Greenwich, last Saturday, a large and distinguished company, consisting mainly of the members of the National Society for the Relief of the Sick and Wounded. Count Bernstorff was present, and proposed Colonel Lloyd-Lindsay's health in highly complimentary terms.

THE WILL OF THE LATE CANON MELVILL has been proved, the personality being sworn under £60,000. It is dated Dec. 18, 1811. Everything is left to his widow absolutely.

DR. WILLIAM B. HODGSON has been appointed Professor of Political Economy and Commercial Mercantile Law in Edinburgh University.

MR. TYRWHITT, the senior magistrate at Marlborough-street, has resigned; and Mr. Hannay, of the Northern Circuit, has been appointed to the vacancy. Mr. Newton, of Worship-street, will probably be asked to share Mr. Knox's duties.

ADMIRAL SIR JAMES HOPE, the Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, was engaged, the other day, showing a party of ladies over the turret-ship *Devastation*, when a plank slipped, and the gallant Admiral fell a depth of 10 ft. He received some severe injuries, and amongst these was a compound fracture of the right leg.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAM WISEMAN, R.N., the only son of Rear-Admiral Sir William S. Wiseman, Bart., K.C.B., has been promoted by the Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean to the rank of Commander as a part of the patronage placed at his disposal by the death of Captain Chaudos Snubhope.

THE LIVERPOOL SCHOOL BOARD, on Monday, after a long discussion, decided not to admit the Douay version of the Bible into the schools of the board.

THE SCOTT EXHIBITION, consisting of portraits, paintings, and manuscripts connected with Sir Walter Scott, was opened in Edinburgh on Saturday. It will remain open until after the Scott Centenary Festival, next month.

ASIATIC CHOLERA is said to be prevailing in Poland, and at Wilna the deaths for the last month have been ten per day.

A BRASS TABLET TO THE MEMORY OF CHARLES LAMBE is about to be placed in the parish church of Edmonton, in the churchyard of which the poet's remains were interred, the monument erected there to his memory having recently been restored.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL is now being restored, a sum of between £20,000 and £30,000 having been allowed to accumulate for that purpose. In carrying out the restoration the original plan of Bishop Gundulph, by whom the present structure was erected, will be strictly adhered to.

THE DREADFUL EPIDEMIC OF FEVER at Buenos Ayres has disappeared, and the health of the city has been restored.

THE EXCHESQUE RECEIPTS from April 1 to July 15 amounted to £18,833,677, an increase of £468,692 upon the revenue in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has amounted to £25,007,225. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £883,125.

HEAD-CONSTABLE TALBOT died on Sunday afternoon, at five minutes to four o'clock. He would bleed slightly early in the morning, but it was at once bandaged, and there was no further hemorrhage. About one o'clock, however, he became slightly delirious, and, although surgical aid was at once procured, he sank rapidly, and died at the hour stated.

STEPHEN BELL, said to be fifty-four years of age, was charged at Southwark, on Monday, with attempting to bleed himself to death. He had in fact, severed one of the main arteries in the left arm, and seems to have had a narrow escape with his life. He now said that he had no recollection of what had happened. Mr. Benson remanded him, and refused to take bail.

WRIGHT'S CHARITY is the title of a parochial gift which falls to be given this year "to any one male resident within the district parish of St. Alban the Martyr, Holborn, of sober life and conversation, in needy circumstances, and not in the receipt of parish relief." The churchwardens cannot find anybody on whom to bestow the charity.

THE GOVERNORS OF AN INFANT-SCHOOL at Bow-common was, on Wednesday, sentenced by the Thames police magistrate to fourteen days' imprisonment, with hard labour, without the option of a fine, for having unmercifully beaten a little boy, four years of age.

NORTH LONDON COLLEGIATE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of this school was held, on Saturday last, at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, under the presidency of Lord Dartmouth, supported by Harvey Lewis, Esq., M.P., Arthur Keble, Esq., Mr. Churchwarden Rhodes, Dr. Garvey, Dr. Storrar, and the Revs. C. Mackenzie, J. B. Owen, T. Pelham Dale, and C. Lee.

THE COUNCIL OF THE LIVERPOOL LIBERAL ASSOCIATION on Wednesday adopted resolutions calling upon Government to press forward the abolition of purchase in the Army, to confine the compensation to regulation prices, and to consider the necessity of reforming the House of Lords.

A SALE OF CELEBRATED SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, the property of the Queen, took place on the Prince Consort's Flemish Farm, Windsor, on Wednesday. There were fifty-six head of cattle, realising 1760gs., averaging £33 per head. A large number of buyers from various parts of the kingdom were present.

MR. GRIEVE, of St. James's Hall, appeared at Marlborough-street Police Court, on Wednesday, to answer a summons charging him with having permitted gaming—viz., a billiard-match, on June 27. The match was between the two Robertses and Cook and Bennett, and evidence was given showing that several wagers were made. The magistrate held that the defendant could have had no knowledge of the fact that betting was going on, and he therefore dismissed the summons.

## CAT SHOW AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The rage for shows has surely nearly reached its climax. Besides the grand shows at South Kensington, the public have long been familiar with flower shows, cattle shows, horse shows, dog shows, and shows of agricultural implements and produce. There have also been baby shows, bird shows, and at least one barmoid show; and now we have got to a cat show. This display has just taken place at the Crystal Palace, that grand emporium of shows, and a very successful show it appears to have been. There was a wealth of cats that must have astonished those who are ignorant of the beauties and variations of the animal, and whose knowledge of them is almost limited to what might be termed a vituperating acquaintance with Thomas of the tiler, who fills our ears with the shrieks of murdered children, the cries of knife-penetrated bagpipes, the remonstrance of a heart-broken woman before a violent death, the laughter of fiends, the descriptive passages in mad nooks of Richard Wagner's operas. Were these silent, patient creatures capable of such freaks and pranks? There was not a "mew" from them in their cages. Some were somnolent as dormice; others were engaged in nursery affairs, being accompanied to the exhibition by very young kittens, who might claim, perhaps, to birthright under the glass roof. There were big cats—cats big enough to bring to mind the weird story of the cat that swelled and swelled until the affrighted German student found her head rising to the very ceiling. One cat had a green eye and a blue eye—an unusual combination, surely; and specimens exhibiting peculiarities and characteristics sufficient to satisfy all visitors, however curious in cats they may have been. The number of animals exhibited was 170; the number of prizes distributed by the judges—the Rev. Cumming Macdonald, Harrison Weir, Esq., and Jenner Weir, Esq.—was 54, amounting to £57 15s. The only drawback was the difficulty of seeing the cats owing to the crowd of visitors. Encouraged by this success, the directors have determined on repeating the show in November, when several improvements in the arrangements will be made. It is hoped also that, with the assistance of the ladies' committee of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (of which Baroness Burdett-Coutts is an active member), some means may be taken of promoting the exhibition of cats by the working classes.

Some of the most remarkable specimens exhibited are depicted in our Engraving. The cat occupying the centre of the page at the top is a fine example of the long-haired tabby, and belongs to Lady Lubbock, High Elms, Beckenham. That immediately in front of him is a Persian cat belonging to the Hon. Mrs. Grey. The two black-muzzled animals next in order are Siamese cats, the one the property of Mrs. Meynell and the other that of Mrs. Alabaster. Then comes a very large English tabby, belonging to Mrs. Amos, which took the first prize on account of being the largest in the show. Mr. Watman's long-haired black cat lies in the foreground.

The cats, however, were not the only objects of curiosity present. There was not only a show of cats, but a show for the cats, who enjoyed favourable opportunities of inspecting the visitors, and some very curious specimens of the *genus homo* they no doubt saw. The bipeds were free enough in their criticisms of the feline quadrupeds; it would have been interesting could one have ascertained the opinions of the latter about the former. That sedate Tom who is so calmly surveying the faces crowded outside his cage beyond doubt had his own notions about the owners of the said physiognomies; and it may well be questioned whether they were in all cases of a favourable character. To be a little cynical for the nonce, one may be inclined to think that possibly the nature and careers of the cats might bear investigation better than those of the humans. But let that pass. The humans enjoyed the show provided for them; we hope the cats enjoyed theirs too.

LOCAL TAXATION.—A public meeting, convened by the vestry of St. Pancras, was held in the Vestry Hall, on Monday night, for the purpose of considering the subject of local taxation, and to demand of the Government and Legislature that the charges now made upon the poor rates should be made national. Mr. Thomas Chambers, Q.C., M.P., occupied the chair, and Mr. Harvey Lewis, M.P., and a number of members of the vestry were present. A petition to Parliament was adopted praying that all national charges should be transferred from local to imperial taxation, and that in all future legislation upon the subject the principle of local control over local affairs should be distinctly recognised. Mr. Harvey Lewis, in supporting the resolution, said local taxation was dragging the population of the country into pauperism.

THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.—The competition for the international challenge trophy excited much interest. It fell to the representatives of Scotland by a majority of 15, the scores made by respective teams having been, Scotland, 1105; England, 1090; Ireland, 1031. Amongst the other contests were those for the Belgian and China challenge cups, the battalion sweepstakes in connection with the Queen's prize, the Snider association cup, the second stage of the Alexandra, and the Duke of Cambridge's prize. Prince Arthur went to the camp on Monday, and, after luncheon with Earl Dufferin, paid a visit to the different ranges, where his Royal Highness witnessed some specimens of very rapid firing. Prince Oscar of Sweden also arrived in the course of the day. The rifle practice is described as having been the best of the average. The most important of the competitions was decided on Tuesday, when Ensign Henry Humphreys, of the 3rd Cambridge Volunteers, won the Queen's prize, with a score of 68 points. The Irish international challenge trophy was won by Ensign Gray, of the 1st Ayrshire. On Wednesday the Albert cup was won by Sergeant Ferguson, Inverness, with 50 points, 15 shots, at 1000 yards. The Canadian cup, value £100, fell to Captain McGieghgan, 22nd Battalion Oxford Rifles, Woodstock, Ontario. Princess Louise will distribute the prizes this (Saturday) afternoon.

AN AWKWARD WAGER.—The Paris *Gaulois* publishes what one may hope is the commencement of an amusing correspondence. The first letter is from M. Bernot, head of the College of Châteaudun, to M. le Baron Unterreichter, orderly officer of General Baron Von der Tann, Ratisbonne. It runs thus:—"Baron,—The 28th of November last you were at Châteaudun, which was taken after a fight of nine hours, not very glorious for the Prussian arms, since 18,000 men, with twenty-four pieces of artillery, were pitted against 1200 men. You took up your quarters at my friend's the apothecary, where we met. After dinner, in the joy caused by your success, you boasted about the power of Prussia, her immense forces, and admirable military organisation, which no other nation could resist. Greatly excited, you fixed the date of your triumphal entry into Paris, and fixed the following itinerary:—"In two days we shall be at Orleans, in eight days at Tours, and in three weeks in Paris." As I contested this last assertion, you said, "Well, I bet my head against yours that we shall enter Paris before Jan. 1." The bet was taken. Not having entered Paris before Jan. 1, you have lost, and your head belongs to me. As a man of honour and a gentleman you owe it to me, and I count upon your word. But do not torment yourself, Baron; I am not a man of blood, and prefer seeing heads where the Creator placed them. For this reason I propose a settlement. You shall keep your head, which is no doubt precious to you, and would be a great nuisance to me; but as compensation you will give me 10,000fr., which shall be laid out in relieving the victims of the war." The Baron's answer is anxiously expected. Will he prefer sending his head or the money? The poor of Châteaudun, who are interested in the settlement, eagerly watch the arrival of the mail-bags. Grimm tells an anecdote in his correspondence of King Henry VIII. having, for some reason not mentioned, demanded the head of the Bishop of Montauban, whereupon the French monarch replied that the Prelate in question had not got one. Bluff King Hal was tickled at the answer, and did not press the demand. A joke in those days evidently went a long way; but it is to be hoped that our Bavarian Baron will not be allowed to escape so easily, and that he will either undergo public execution or hand out his thalers.

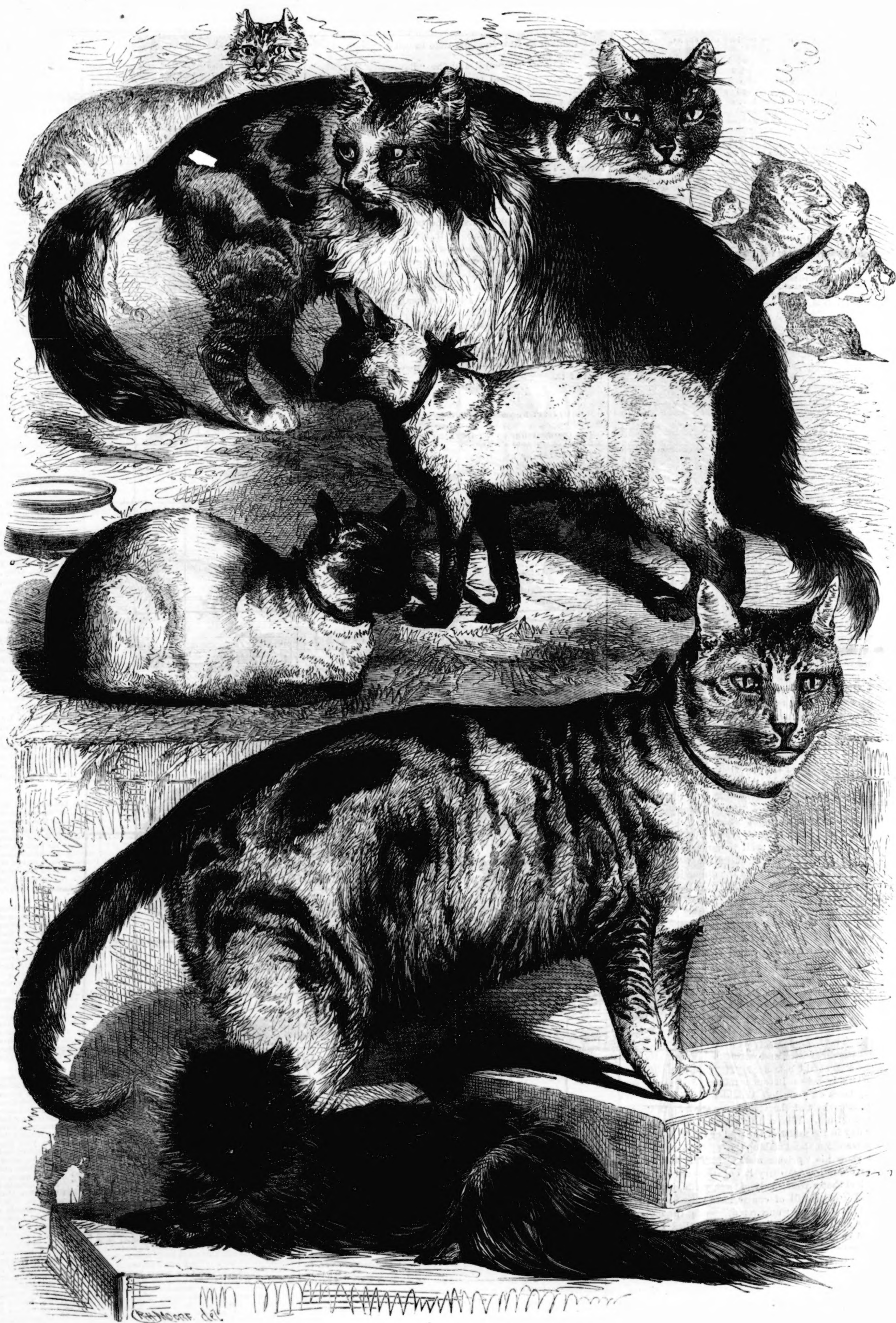


## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

ONE of the quaintest proposals ever submitted to an age that reads newspapers, travels by rail, and sends telegrams, was put to the House of Commons by Mr. R. Torrens, on Tuesday last, in the debate on the ballot. This delicious amendment was "negatived;" but, as it was quite in accordance with the spirit of recent legislation, it well deserves a word of notice. Mr. R. Torrens moved to insert after section 9 the following words: "Every voter shall, before receiving a voting-paper, stand at the entrance to the polling station uncovered, and facing outwards, whilst his name and description, and the qualification in respect of which he claims to vote, are called by the public crier or other person appointed for the purpose by the returning officer." The amendment was intended as a deterrent to personation. By the voter facing the crowd he might be identified, or if he were a dishonest man some one in the crowd might know the person whom he intended to personate. Upon this supremely absurd "amendment" Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson remarked—gravely, so far as appears—that "he did not think the plan would work well in large constituencies." Nowhere has the reporter introduced the words "ironical cheers" or "loud laughter." As the discussion proceeded, Mr. Forster said he "did not think that the amendment was a practical measure. The 'entrance' would often be to a school-room; and then arose the question whether the 'entrance' would be to the 'building' or to the 'room.' Then, with regard to the word 'uncovered,' that would apply to women voting at municipal elections, and necessitate their taking off their bonnets. Some, he felt satisfied, would not like to submit themselves to uncovered inspection." Just so. We, for our part, feel more than satisfied that "some" would not like to submit themselves, uncovered, to inspection, which we presume is what the learned reporter means; "uncovered inspection" being, one knows not what. The bonnet suggestion is of great force; but how about wigs, padding, and artificial beards? Nay, why should one stop at these trifles? The climax of "Box and Cox" inevitably arises in one's memory. "Have you a strawberry mark on your left shoulder?" Exactly. Why should we stop short of the strawberry mark? In disputed cases we could not. Who can forget what took place only the other day in the midst of the trial of the Tichborne case, and the altercation about making the facetious and enormous claimant show his "private marks"? This sort of thing will never do, unless we carry it out thoroughly. And we certainly feel that a young lady of twenty-one, just about to be married (women will of course have votes immediately), would not like to stand "uncovered," facing the mob, while her "name and description" were being called by a crier. We should be glad to see the ballot in action as long as "representative Government" is continued on its present footing, but the effect of any such measure as this would be that only cads would go to the poll.

The instructive part of the case is, not that the amendment has been rejected, but that it could ever be proposed. What sort of measure of human nature has been taken by Mr. R. Torrens and men like him, it is hard to say. But we





CATS AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE: THE SHOW OF CATS.



CATS AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE: A SHOW FOR THE CATS.





## THE LOUNGER.

MR. GLADSTONE'S announcement that he means to push the Ballot Bill through even if he should be obliged to keep the House sitting until the middle of September is an alarming announcement, and has carried dismay into a hundred families and more. But I do not think that there is much occasion for this alarm. It is a mere *brutum fulmen*, this threat. Mr. Gladstone will not attempt to push all this bill through. If he can but carry the ballot clauses he will be contented. He will have stiff work to get that much done, and it is confidently asserted that if these be not passed through Committee by the end of next week he will, as he has often had to do, reconsider his position. After next week his followers will get impatient, and a considerable number will snap their chain and be off to the moors. At present both parties are defiant. But this sort of thing has been seen before, and I confidently predict—ugly as our prospects look just now—that about the middle of August Parliament will be prorogued. Mr. Gladstone says it is absolutely necessary that the House should pass this bill. But where is the necessity? No general election is imminent. Moreover, unless the bill can be got up to the Lords by the first week in August, their Lordships will speedily dismiss it. The Liberals say we must get this bill through, or the Session will be utterly barren. Sadly true, this. The reputation of the Government will certainly be sorely damaged. But how can that reputation be healed by merely getting the bill through the House of Commons? To do that effectively, if anything can do it now, the bill must be passed into a law, and that I hold to be all but impossible. But, in truth, the wounded reputation of the Government cannot be healed. The Government has blundered most discreditably, and, as the blunders cannot be recalled, their reputation cannot be healed. All that they can do is, like other sinners, repent and resolve to do better in future.

The defeat of the Government Army Bill on Monday surprised none of our knowing ones. The odds were against it for several days before the division came, and increased as the time for dividing approached; but the majority was larger than the Government whips expected. Nobody calculated that it would be more than ten. I will not speculate upon what the Government will do, because before you get your paper published we shall have heard the answer to Sir George Grey's question, which (by arrangement made by the Government) he put to the Secretary for War on Thursday evening. If the throwing out of the bill were the be all and end all of the matter, the conduct of the majority would involve cruel loss to many of the officers; for, you see, there is no market for commissions now, and there will be none until this matter can be settled. If, then, in the interim an officer should wish to sell his commission, he cannot do it; and if he should die, holding his commission, the money which he has paid for it will be lost to his family. But, happily, the Queen—meaning, of course, her Majesty's Ministers—can effect the change immediately, without the consent of Parliament. By-the-way, I fancy many of the peers, if they had known this, would have voted for the bill.

Mr. Isaac Butt is up for Monaghan as a Nationalist candidate, against Mr. John Leslie, the brother of the late member. The Leslies have very large estates in the county, and, of course, all the big landowners will support Mr. Leslie. Mr. Butt, I hear, cannot canvass. He is under a bond to certain trustees not to canvass, but the deed does not bind him not to enter Parliament. Mr. Butt, when he was last in Parliament, was, as all the world knew, and he did not care to conceal it, in low water—all but aground, indeed. But since he left the House he has become leader of the Irish Bar, and has been reaping a rich harvest of money. Pity, then, is it not, that this able man should not eschew ambition and stay where he is for some time longer, as all his real friends wish him to do? Mr. Butt is a very able man. Some of his speeches in Parliament on legal questions were really great speeches. Indeed, it is generally acknowledged that, with common prudence—which, poor man! he never possessed—he would long ago have been made a Judge. Nay, I heard an Irish lawyer of no mean name say that the Great Seal would have been within his reach. For his own sake, I hope he will be defeated. If, though, he should be elected, he will be a formidable advocate of Nationalism. But he will not be factious; he is too good-natured for that.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

I had hoped, when Mrs. Scott Siddons returned from America, that she would have appeared again on the stage, and played Rosalind, or Desdemona, or Ophelia, or Imogen. But readings, so fashionable in America, have tempted this gifted lady to quit the stage for the present in favour of the platform. The same entertainment, given by Mrs. Stirling not very long since at St. James's Hall, of reading the play of "Midsummer Night's Dream" to a musical accompaniment, arranged from Mendelssohn's music by Mr. F. Kingsbury, has been repeated with some success by Mrs. Siddons. I do not myself think that such entertainments are very likely to become popular in this country. There are speeches and characters in this play to which an actress like Mrs. Siddons does ample justice; but she cannot, of course, touch Bottom the Weaver, Snug, or Quince. As far, however, as such a reading can be made popular, the task is, with Mrs. Scott Siddons, in very good hands. There may, though, be shortly an opportunity for the return of this pretty actress to the real stage. Mr. Walter Montgomery has taken the Gaiety for the summer season, and he will need some valuable help in the poetical plays he promises. Why not ask Mrs. Scott Siddons to join the venture?

While on the subject of poetical plays and the revival of the legitimate drama, I may mention that an important meeting is to be held next week for the purpose of considering the vexed and most important question of a national theatre. Mr. Tom Taylor takes the initiative, and he will be supported by Lords Lytton, Houghton, and Dufferin, Mr. Macready, and others interested in the matter. This is a move in the right direction, and Mr. Tom Taylor deserves all thanks for his energy.

We are now coming to a very slack theatrical season. The PRINCE OF WALES's will shortly close for a short vacation prior to reopening with a revival of "Caste," for which Mr. George Honey has been specially re-engaged, and he returns accordingly to the scene of his former triumphs. Mr. Coghlan will play George D'Alroy for the first time, and, no doubt, very well he will play it; though Mr. Coghlan wants a good, wide field and no fetters to enable him thoroughly to distinguish himself. The extraordinary run recently achieved by the revived "Ours" shows what vitality there is in the Robertsonian comedy, and that the little Prince of Wales's still defies all rivals.

The ST. JAMES'S is over this week; the GLOBE has already gone; and the OLYMPIC is not likely to remain open very long. The two French houses which are still attractive are the LYCEUM and the GAIETY. At both very successful revivals of well-known Offenbachian operettas may be chronicled. At the first, in "La Princesse de Trébizonde," Mlle. Thierret, the popular French burlesque actress, has appeared as Paola, the stout lady; and at the other theatre M. Jolly, as Ajax I. in "La Belle Hélène," gives as funny a bit of acting as it is possible to conceive. M. Jolly is well worth seeing.

The STRAND has for a week been handed over to the tender mercies of Mr. Fleming Norton, a young gentleman who gives what he calls an entertainment, with sketches of characters usually found—according to the entertainer—at a picnic. All the characters have a strange family likeness; but I do not think the merry little Strand will be itself again until Mr. John S. Clarke returns, next week, and commences with Dr. Pangloss, in "The Heir at Law."

Mr. Hastings still keeps Sir Charles Young under his wing. At the QUEEN'S, on Wednesday morning next, we are promised a new comedy called "Charms," of which great things are naturally expected.

## SIGNOR MARIO.

FOR more than thirty years Signor Mario has been a conspicuous ornament of the London Italian Lyric stage. A year after his first public appearance—at the Paris Grand Opera, in Meyerbeer's "Robert le Diable"—he was engaged by the director of Her Majesty's Theatre, and in 1839 made his début as Gennaro in "Lucrezia Borgia." Endowed with a prepossessing exterior and a beautiful voice, but with a great deal to learn in the vocal, and almost everything in the histrionic, department of his calling, the impression he created, though agreeable, was not marked. In fact, he was a mere novice, and as such at best obtained that amount of encouragement which a good-natured public rarely denies to a novice exhibiting any signs of promise. The voice of the youthful stranger, however, exercised a charm of itself, and, though Rubini was still active, and the young Russian tenor, Ivanoff, had been welcomed with favour, as that great artist's possible successor, Signor Mario quietly progressed. In a short time he superseded Ivanoff, and was ultimately accepted with general consent as one worthy to take the place left vacant by Rubini. While advancing gradually but surely as a singer, Signor Mario was also striving with no less earnestness to attain proficiency as an actor. The fruits of this earnest endeavour were not long in coming. Signor Mario had before him an admirable exemplar in the late Giulia Grisi, of whom, both in comic and in serious opera, he was frequently a colleague. From Grisi he learned a vast deal, and to such good purpose, that in the course of time he became Grisi's equal, and further on in the course of time, her superior. In saying this we are saying much, no doubt; but it must be borne in mind that we speak of one who, in our honest opinion, is the most versatile and thoroughly accomplished lyric comedian the Italian stage has possessed within the memory of the oldest of the present generation of opera-goers. The story of Mario's early career in London, however, like that of his previous essays in the French capital, or the reasons, so often vaguely described, which induced him, a nobleman by birth and education, to adopt the stage as a profession, can have only a relative interest for amateurs of our time. It will, therefore, suffice to add that, step by step, or, in other words, opera by opera, up to the end of the season 1845, when, together with the conductor, the members of the orchestra, and most of the principal singers belonging to Her Majesty's Theatre, Signor Mario joined the formidable opposition in Bow-street, he rose in the estimation of the public; that the first marked and indelible impression he created at the old establishment was in the character of Ernesto ("Don Pasquale"), where his delivery of the since so thoroughly hackneyed, then so new and enticing, serenade, "Com'è gentil," became the town talk; that his first brilliant and undisputed success was as Count Almaviva ("Il Barbiere"), to which he brought a flexibility of voice in the execution of the florid passages unpossessed by either of his renowned predecessors, Donzelli and Rubini, which enabled him to give the cavatina, "Ecco ridente," and the duet with Figaro, "All'idea," with an ease and fluency previously unknown; and that among other parts in which he earned distinction were Nemorino ("L'Elisir"), Elvino ("La Sonnambula"), Arturo ("I Puritani"), Carlo ("Linda di Chamouni"), Percy ("Anna Bolena"), in which his singing of the famous air, "Vivi tu," emulated that of Rubini; Ottavio ("Don Giovanni"); and last, not least, Otello, in Rossini's opera of that name—a performance in every way so remarkable, both in a dramatic and a vocal sense, that it is difficult to understand why Signor Mario should have resigned the character to singers who, with one exception (Signor Tamberlik), had no qualifications whatever for the task beyond the possession of certain exceptionally high notes.

That period of Signor Mario's career in which the living race of amateurs are most naturally interested dates from the institution at Covent-Garden Theatre (April, 1847) of the Royal Italian Opera, which, first directed by Signor Persiani, Signor Galetti, and the late Mr. Frederick Beale, and afterwards by Messrs. Delafeld and Webster, has now for twenty-two years consecutively been under the sole management of Mr. Gye. A simple enumeration of the various parts in Italian opera proper which the great Italian tenor has sustained from 1847 until now might almost suffice, so familiar are his admirable assumptions to all who reckon Italian opera among the necessary and cherished recreations of the spring and summer season. Let us enumerate them, one by one, in chronological order:—Elvino ("La Sonnambula"), Arturo ("I Puritani"), Gennaro ("Lucrezia"), Ottavio ("Don Giovanni"), Jacopo Foscari ("I Due Foscari"), Almaviva ("Il Barbiere"), Gianetto ("La Gazza Ladra"), Uberto ("La Donna del Lago"), Fernando ("La Favorita"), Edgardo ("Lucia"), Paolino ("Il Matrimonio Segreto"), Nemorino ("L'Elisir d'Amore"), Manrico ("Il Trovatore"), Alfredo ("La Traviata"), Viscardo (Mercadante's "Il Giuramento"), and Ernesto ("Don Pasquale"). It is possible that we may have overlooked some, but it is not easy to bear in memory without fail the incidents of a quarter of a century. Most of the characters we have named were frequently played by Signor Mario, though he has for a long time discarded some of them, to the regret of his admirers in particular and the public in general.

It is worth noting that, whereas at Her Majesty's Theatre Signor Mario used to be almost exclusively associated with Italian vocalists *par sang*, he has, at the Royal Italian Opera, been continually associated with vocalists of other nationalities—German, French, Spanish, American, English, &c. He might on that account, perhaps, have been thought to be more or less out of his sphere, and a certain deterioration have been regarded as more than likely. The case, however, proved exactly the reverse. All that was worth learning from the, so to speak, exotic elements by which Signor Mario has so frequently been surrounded was used for his own peculiar advantage. It was no detriment to him that, in the "Huguenots" and the "Prophète," he should have as his earliest partner an artist of such high intellectualty as Madame Pauline Viardot Garcia, one of the most distinguished of musical Spaniards. He doubtless caught much from the gifted sister of Malibran, but added a grace of his own which invested with a double charm what he had appropriated. Signor Mario's genius, indeed, from the beginning was appropriative; and it was only as he advanced in years that it assumed an undeniably inventive power—a power to which, in Italian opera, we are indebted for his superb impersonation of Fernando, in the "Favorita"; his Raoul, in the "Huguenots"; and, perhaps most striking of all, his Jean de Leyden, in the "Prophète." Notwithstanding the fact that Signor Mario made his first public attempt in one of the grand French operas of Meyerbeer, he subsequently, as we have shown, went into the ranks of Italian singers, earning his freshest laurels in purely Italian opera; and few could have imagined that the sentimental Elvino, the lovesick Nemorino, the gay and dashing Almaviva, all represented in such lifelike perfection, would afterwards come forth as the chivalrous Raoul de Nangis of "The Huguenots," the gloomy sham apostle of the "Prophète," and the Faust of Fausts in the wonderfully popular work of a composer who, when Mario was at his zenith, had only just appeared as the young and by no means brilliantly successful author of the Franco-Greek opera, "Sappho." Yet such was the case, and even in characters like Eleazar the Jew, in Halévy's best opera, and Masaniello, the revolutionary fisherman of Auber—merely to single out two examples—he was enabled by the singular versatility of his talent equally to outshine competitors. When Signor Mario first essayed the operas of Verdi it was generally thought that he would fail. But, no. His Jacopo Foscari was a masterpiece of vocal and dramatic power not easy to forget; while in later characters of the now most popular of Italian composers, and conspicuous among the rest, the Duke (of Mantua) in "Rigoletto," and that other Duke (of Naples) in "Un Ballo in Maschera," to say nothing of Manrico in the "Trovatore"—if the fourth act, the chef-d'œuvre of Verdi, be the test—he has long shone peerless. Lastly,

\* "Don Pasquale" was composed by Donizetti, for Paris, in 1843, with Grisi, Mario, Tamberlik, and Lablache in the four chief characters.

among French operas in which Signor Mario has earned well-merited distinction may be named, "Romeo et Juliette," which many amateurs are disposed to look upon as the *capo d'opéra* of M. Gounod, and which, at all events, has every pretension to rank with the eminent composer's "Faust," and even with his "Mireille"—on the whole, the most original and freshest of his dramatic pieces. None who witnessed Signor Mario's impersonation of the "star-crossed lover," associated with the incomparable Giulietta of Madame Adelina Patti, can remember it without deep and abiding interest. Romeo, Signor Mario's last new "creation," was in many respects, perhaps, his very finest.

The foregoing, it must be allowed, is a repertory almost unexampled for a *primo tenore di cartello*, as the conventional phrase expresses it. Other characters might be added to it—as, for instance, Rinaldo, in "Robert le Diable," once undertaken in order to add to the completeness of what was projected as an extraordinary "cast" of Meyerbeer's first grand French opera—an occasion upon which, if we recollect well, Ronconi assumed the insignificant part of the Herald; and, again, Tamino, in "Il Flauto Magico," with the music of which it must be admitted that Signor Mario never felt entirely at his ease. About his impersonation of Don Giovanni, with the music transposed and altered for his convenience (1858), the less said the better, seeing that it was the only absolute mistake he ever made in his long and honourable career.

No small interest has been imparted to the season just coming to a close by the advertised fact that Signor Mario was to take leave of the London Italian Opera for ever. To Paris, St. Petersburg, Madrid, New York, &c., he has bid no formal "adieu," and in either or all of those musical cities he may probably be heard again. But the representations at the Royal Italian Opera this summer were announced as positively his "last." On the whole, we may safely assert that, taking Signor Mario as he is, and other contemporary operatic tenors—young, old, or middle-aged—as they are, no such series of performances could under any circumstances have been given by any other artist. The characters assumed for the last time in London by Signor Mario have been Count Almaviva, Faust, Raoul de Nangis, Don Ottavio, Duke of Mantua ("Rigoletto"), Fernando, Riccardo ("Un Ballo"), Lionello ("Marta"), and Manrico ("Il Trovatore"). Among these the most striking effects were produced by Raoul (the "Huguenots"), and Fernando (the "Favorita"), parts destined for his final appearances.—*Times*.

At the Italian Opera-House, on Wednesday evening, a handsome testimonial was presented to Signor Mario, on his final retirement from the lyric stage. It consisted of an elegant octagon-shaped casket, richly ornamented with gold mounts at each corner, and having a medallion, on which was engraved a verse laudatory of the recipient.

## THE COMPLETION OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

MR. F. NAPIER BROOME, secretary to the executive committee for the completion of St. Paul's Cathedral, sends us the following letter, with a request for its publication in our columns—a request which the interest of the subject fully warrants:—

"Sir,—Just a year ago, this great undertaking was inaugurated by a public meeting held at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. On the motion of the Bishop of London, seconded by the Prime Minister of England, the meeting declared, 'that the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's, the noblest church erected in these later times, and the especial boast of our own communion, having been left unfinished by its great architect, its completion, with such decoration and magnificence as the wealth and skill of this age can well supply, is a duty incumbent on all those who reverence the honour of the sanctuary, and feel pride in the architectural dignity of London.' Two other resolutions were passed: the first pointed out that not only the citizens and other inhabitants and other owners of property in London, but the English people generally, were concerned in the completion of St. Paul's, since the cathedral of the chief city of the empire and the seat of Government was as much his own church to every British subject, as each single church in the land was the church of its own parishioners. A third and last resolution dwelt on the need of a very large sum of money, and on the necessity of this being supplied by liberal gifts, seeing that the whole of the surplus revenues of St. Paul's, arising from its ancient estates, had been diverted to the Common Fund of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and applied to the spiritual wants of the nation at large. These resolutions were supported by eloquent speeches from eminent men; they were carried unanimously; preliminary subscriptions, amounting to £19,155 were announced, and the meeting broke up, leaving the committee and the public to do the rest.

"The task which the committee have undertaken is twofold, and involves the raising of a vast sum of money and the doing of a vast work of art. To the sum of money I will come by-and-by; the work of art divides itself into two parts—firstly, such pictorial and decorative covering of the bare or insufficiently treated spaces of the cathedral as will render its interior surfaces worthy of the pure magnificence of its architectural outline, and the whole building worthy of the world-wide church and empire whose chief temple it is; secondly, such an arrangement of seats, stalls, organ, pulpit, &c., as will most conduce to the fitting celebration, the dignity, and utility of the services, and as will most impress and best accommodate the vast congregations they seek to gather. To the latter part of their work, as being not only the more evident and, perhaps, the easier, but the more urgent and necessary, the committee have first devoted themselves. Feeling that the decentralisation of the services by the use of the transept organ and of temporary seats for the choir was neither seemly nor convenient, one of the first acts was to request several of the most eminent church musicians of the day to serve upon a sub-committee, to consider from a musical point of view what changes were advisable in the cathedral for the better arrangement and conduct of its services. The sub-committee, after much careful deliberation, reported in favour of an increase and rearrangement of the organ, stalls, and seats in the choir, proposing to bring them nearer to the dome, thus enabling the transept organ to be dispensed with, and effecting a clear gain of the space it takes up and the light it darkens. But the principal advantage of this plan will be the concentration and unification of the services. Whenever there is a great congregation, which may almost be said to be every Sunday, it will no longer be necessary to come out of the choir and hold service in the dome, but, by strengthening the organ now in the choir, and placing it nearer to the dome, the choir seats being extended in the same direction, the dome area will be, as it were, taken into the choir; the cathedral will no longer have within it two churches, occupying its space and derogating from the dignity and impressiveness of its services, but the same single and simple arrangement will equally suffice for a congregation of 500, or for one of 5000.

"The above recommendations, after having been carefully considered in their architectural aspect, and elaborated by the help of plans and models, were adopted by the committee, and are now being carried into effect. Their practical details are briefly as follows:—

"1. The enlargement of Father Smith's beautiful old organ, and its division into halves, to be placed opposite each other, north and south, against the piers of the dome, at the entrance to the choir.

"The organ thus enlarged and divided will have the appearance of two distinct organs, each in its handsome carved case, but will be connected by electric or pneumatic apparatus running under the floor of the choir, and will be played by one organist. This arrangement, the committee believe, will prove an accession not only of musical power, but of architectural beauty.

"2. The continuation to the verge of the dome area of the present finely carved woodwork of the choir benches and stalls. This improvement will give seats to those of the cathedral dignitaries at present unprovided with them, and will furnish



The company embarked as soon as dinner was over, and the steamer proceeded several miles further up the river to the part where it forms a series of lakes. The scenery is here much more attractive than lower down. One is reminded in a faint yet unquestionable manner of the appearance of the Rhine between Coblenz and Binger, the difference being that in the case of the Rhine, the absence of castle and vineyard-crowned heights along





TRANSFER OF THE ITALIAN CAPITAL TO ROME: RECEPTION OF VICTOR EMMANUEL IN THE ETERNAL CITY.



## THE KING OF ITALY IN ROME.

THE inauguration of the Eternal City as the capital of Italy carried back the imagination to the time of Theodosius, and it is not too much to say that the spectacle presented during the King's stay was a realisation of the dream of Dante and Macchiavelli. The Piazza of the Baths of Diocletian, the streets of San Nicolo a Tolentino, and the Piazza Barberini, the streets of San Nicolò Condotti, Corso, and Delle Muratti, up to the steps of the Quirinal, were lined by 150,000 persons when the King of the Quirinal, and the great majority of this mass were either Romans or natives of the Pontifical States. The whole city was decorated with tricolour flags. His Majesty was received at the station by his Ministers, by deputations from the Senate and Chamber, the Syndic and Municipality of Rome, all the civil and military authorities, and the Syndics of all the cities of Italy, and, after a moment's pause, entered a state carriage, by the side of which Prince Humbert rode on horseback. Victor Emmanuel wore the uniform of a General, and was accompanied in the carriage by his aide-de-camp, General de Sonnaz, by the President of the Council of Ministers, and by Prince Pallavicini, Syndic of Rome. Other carriages followed, and the procession was completed by an escort of the cuirassiers, or hundred guards, and the mounted National Guard. A tumult of cheers hailed the cortège along the whole route, while from every balcony, and window, and housetop throngs of women showered bouquets on their elected Sovereign. The King no sooner alighted on the Quirinal than he responded to the shouts of the multitude by appearing on the balcony and delivering a congratulatory speech. The grand banquet, the visit to the Theatre Apollo, the illumination, and next day the review, the ball at the Capitol, and the torchlight return to the Quirinal were gone through by the King

without his betraying any sign of fatigue, though in reality he suffered acutely. He arrived at Rome in a critical state of health, and was in high fever during the whole of his stay.

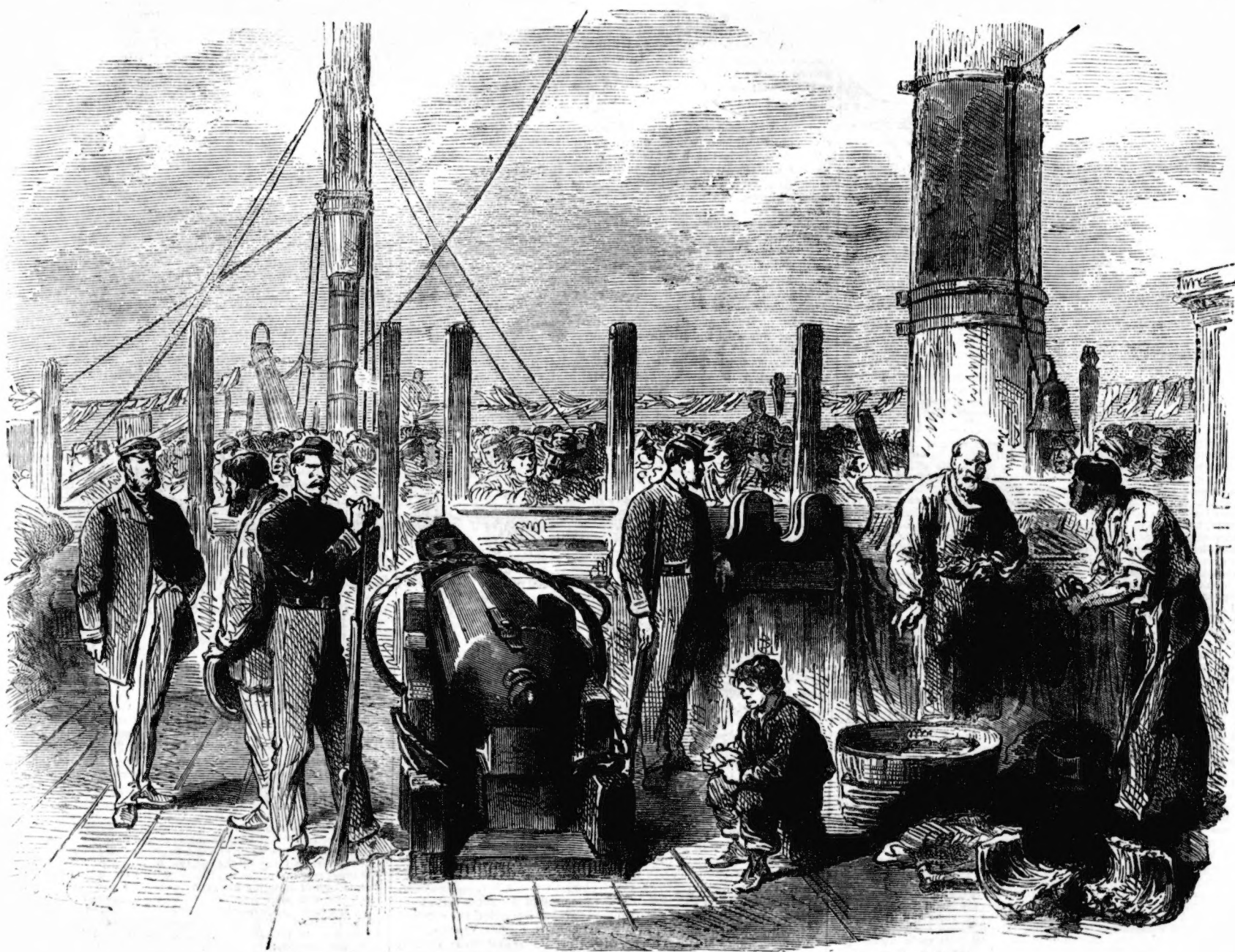
In connection with the transfer of the Italian capital to Rome it is interesting to know something of the state of parties at the Vatican. This information is supplied by a correspondent of the *Daily News* in a letter dated

Rome, July 14.

"Not a few amongst your readers, I apprehend, must feel desirous to learn, on good and reliable data, what at this precise moment are the feelings, what the language and bearing, of the venerable occupant of the Vatican. It is impossible not to regard his position with mingled curiosity and compassion. There have been ancient Roman Emperors the promise of whose early years, when first assuming the Imperial purple, was one of hope, of happiness, of virtue, but whose names have come down to posterity darkened with the memory of every vice. There have been modern French Kings to whom the confiding fondness of their subjects gave in youth the title of 'Well-Beloved,' and who, half a century later, were carried to the grave amidst the contempt and execration of their people. But what have even these vicissitudes of fame been, when compared with the changes in the universal opinion of his own countrymen, who a quarter of a century ago hailed the advent of this priest-king as a new epoch in the history of Rome, of Italy, of Catholic Christendom—nay, of the whole human race? Now, unsympathisingly, exultingly they behold the king stripped of his power, and treat with scorn the uses made by the priest of the power still left at his command. Surely the feelings of the individual who has thus passed from one pole to the other of popular estimates and judgments must not be a little curious. One is tempted to ask: Does he feel for himself in the same de-

gree—in anything like the same degree—in which others, even strangers, even those whom he deems his enemies, cannot help feeling for him?

"Now the plain, undisguised fact—I give it as I have received it from sources in which I place the most implicit confidence—the plain, undisguised fact is, that his Holiness Pope Pius IX., making every allowance for his advanced age, never was in better health, and never in better spirits, than he finds himself at the present moment. But I am afraid the estimable and devout members of the various Catholic deputations who repaired to Rome to pay their homage on the occasion of the Jubilee will derive little satisfaction when they learn the real cause of the satisfaction of the Pope. It is only of a purely personal nature. It is one which could only be cherished by a person to whom the success or failure of his own personal schemes and plans has been an object of greater importance—just because purely and personally his—than the most momentous mundane objects and interests of the vast spiritual fold of which he claims to be the shepherd. The same Pope Pius is twitting and taunting the more Ultramontane of the venerable members of the Sacred College—those who have been urging him to pursue reactionary courses—after the following fashion:—'You see what it has all come to; just as I told you, just as I never ceased to predict; you insisted on my abjuring my early liberal policy, and now you see the result. I hope your hearts are gladdened with it. But go on, venerable brethren, you shall have it all your own way. You shall have another syllabus, another encyclical letter; but recollect, venerable brethren, that all along this has been your policy, not mine. It is by you that such calamities have been brought upon the Church and upon the world.' Now, it may not give a very exalted idea of the magnanimity of Pius IX. to learn that such is his daily



INTERNMENT OF FRENCH INSURGENT PRISONERS AT THE PORTS: ON BOARD THE TRANSPORT LA MARNE IN BREST ROADS.

style of conversation; but it is not the less the simple fact. In this way a vain, weak-minded man can always find or make himself at ease, whatever turn the affairs of the Church may take. If they are flourishing, this flourishing state redounds to the glory of Pius the Pontiff. If they dwindle and fade away, this deplorable state of decay illustrates the foresight of Pius the Prophet, and recalls by contrast the days of Pius the Reformer. It is a species of Papal chuck-farthing on the conditions of the shrewd juvenile gamester—'heads, I win; tails, you lose.' It must not be supposed, however, that the daily indulgence in this very peculiar self-gratulation calls forth no murmurs and remonstrances at the Vatican. The collapse of the temporal power has sorely damped the spirits of the Infalibilists, and has greatly raised the courage of those who, with varying degrees of frankness and vigour, were opposed to the last Papal move. Cardinals and Monsignori, whose opposition was of a mitigated character, whilst the strong current of Ultramontane passion ran in full tide, and whose opposition was in the interest of the temporal power, of sinking minor differences in the interest of the temporal power, take now another view of the question with the Italian Government definitively established at Rome. These Cardinals and Monsignori, having no longer any reason to be silent, are speaking out. The temporal power is gone. What if the spiritual authority in Bavaria and Austria, in the Rhine provinces, in many a French diocese, should share the same fate? The Liberal party in the Vatican are desirous of warding off this mischief. They are at present doing everything in their power to make Pius IX. if not absolutely retrace his steps—that would be too great, too public, too signal a humiliation—at least slacken speed, and no longer hurry downward on the steep and dangerous path which has been lately trending. Should their efforts prove altogether unsuccessful they will openly side with Dollinger and Father Hyacinthe. These are no vague and idle dreams—they are the

plain, straightforward assurances of great Catholic churchmen, by whom such a course is regarded as the sole means capable, if not of saving St. Peter's barque, at least of constructing such a raft or life-boat as may enable them to reach the shore in safety. Nor must it be forgotten that these men have their own personal jealousies, and vanity, and ambition, of which the hopes and aims are menaced by the attitude of the Pope and by the new administrative instruments at his disposal for giving effect to his schemes, his desires, or it may be his mere caprice. It is well known that he proposes by a special bull, possessing the sanction of his newly-assumed personal infallibility, to overrule and override the ancient usages of the Sacred College. By the exercise of this new authority he will nominate his successor. Cardinal Patrizi is designated as such, and the Cardinal will be authorised to assume at once the Papal tiara without the regular summoning and legal formalities of a conclave. Cardinal Patrizi is already associated by the Pope in the cares of the present, as preparatory to those of his own future government. It may, perhaps, interest the author of 'Sartor Resartus' to be informed that amongst the most pressing anxieties of the future Pontiff at the present moment is the idea of so completely remodelling the dress of the clergy, both secular and regular, that it shall no longer associate the persons of the wearers with the memories of medieval times, but place them—in outward garb at least—on a footing not greatly different from the rest of their fellow-citizens."

## INTERNMENT OF FRENCH COMMUNIST PRISONERS AT BREST.

PARTICULARS of the disposal of the large number of insurgent prisoners arrested after the defeat of the Communists are now being published in the French journals, and we are able to publish

an Engraving from a sketch of the deck of the Marne transport-ship, containing a company of them, in the harbour at Brest, where these vessels lie at anchor. The newspapers say:—

"There are at present 500 of them on board the Pandora. They are placed by fifties in the compartments of the big ship, each about 35 ft. by 12 ft., lighted and ventilated by three portholes, which are opened at four o'clock in the morning and closed at half-past seven in the evening. The rations consist of a biscuit, served out at five o'clock in the morning, bread and haricot soup at mid-day, and a biscuit and haricots at six o'clock in the evening. On Mondays there is an addition to the rations of cod-fish, preserved in oil. No tobacco is allowed, and communication with their friends is extremely difficult, even to the extent of making known their destination."

This discipline appears to be very severe, but the correctness of the report is called in question. On board the Marne the artist was able to see the whole of the regulations carried out. On board every ship of war the division of the vessel abaft the mainmast is reserved for the officers and men on duty. The same arrangement is made on the convict-ship, but the separation is made more absolute by a strong low partition, guarded by two marine sentries, and also protected by a black Cerberus, whose bark, however, is worse than his bite. At the foot of the mainmast is seen a great heap of salt beef ready for the work of the cooks, who have taken into their service a youthful Communist of about twelve years old as general stoker for the ovens and furnaces, to which he gives serious attention, apparently convinced that the work is more important than that of firing a mine. Several of the prisoners seem to be permitted to walk about the deck, and even to enter the various portions of the vessel with a considerable degree of freedom, and for one young man of great intelligence our Artist has had a studio made, where he is permitted to work. Some of



the men present such an appearance of respectability and others are so venerable in their looks that it is difficult to associate them with the terrible acts in which they have been implicated. The sympathy of officers and men is alike evoked by the misery of those who are placed under their charge, and they are so far from exercising any cruelty that they do all they can to mitigate the punishment of such an imprisonment.

The artist from whose drawing our Engraving is taken declares that he has explored the Brest roadstead in every direction, and can neither find any ship called the Pandora nor anybody who ever heard of such a vessel, while the story of the haricot diet, the confined cells with their closed portholes, and the cod-fish in oil once a week for a treat, is no more than a fabrication. On the contrary, he visited the between-decks of the Marne, where there are no chambers but the battery, the whole length being free except at the extremities, where it is closed by a solid partition, guarded by sentries. The portholes are open, the ventilation complete, and vitiated by no bad odours; the men are at work, reading or mending their clothes, and there is no symptom of disorder. Presently, at a given signal, they ascend to the upper deck for recreation, which is permitted during an hour and a quarter. At this time they are allowed to smoke. While they are on board the daily routine is as follows:—At half past four in the morning down with hammocks, followed by the serving of the same rations of biscuit as are supplied to the sailors; at five o'clock the first division of the men are summoned to the deck to perform their ablutions and to wash their linen in fresh water. This lasts till seven o'clock, and during that time the second division are employed in cleaning the battery (that is to say, their general living and sleeping place—their prison, in fact). At seven o'clock the first division goes below and the second takes its place, to wash, &c., till nine o'clock. At eleven o'clock they have breakfast, at four o'clock dinner. These meals consist alternately of vegetables and fresh or salted meat, of biscuit and of bread, with water mingled with lime juice to drink. At six o'clock the men go below, and at seven retire to their hammocks. During the night sentries make frequent rounds. Twice a week the sergeant-at-arms takes a list of articles desired by the prisoners, who can pay for extra luxuries allowed by the commandant. Many such additions are permitted; in fact, any reasonable addition may be made to the rations, but wine and spirits are forbidden.

**MADAME TUSSAUD'S.**—Amongst the numberless entertainments which London tends to the pleasure-seeker and sight-seer, Madame Tussaud's exhibition stands out in bold prominence against all the rest. Theatres, concert-halls, and such like places under various denominations, we have plentifully scattered over the metropolis; but there is only one Madame Tussaud's. And the little old lady who, with her back to us as we enter the exhibition, stands gazing on the wonderful collection of figures before her, a great portion of which in her lifetime she gathered around her, and which have been vastly augmented by her successors since her death, seems to bid determined defiance to anyone to collect at once within their halls, be they never so spacious, such a company of crowned heads, warriors, statesmen, poets, tyrants, martyrs, victims, and murderers, as the guest finds himself mingling with on entering Madame Tussaud's brilliant saloons in Baker-street. Several Royal figures have, within the last few days, been robed in a splendour of attire in comparison with which all former efforts at magnificence must appear positively mean. These costly court dresses have for the most been manufactured specially for "Madame" Tussaud by M. Worth, of Paris, and Messrs. Gask and Gask, of London. The order of texture in the dresses of the ladies, and the multitudinous tins of which the harmonious whole is made up, it would require the subtle genius of a lady in such matters to describe. Hundreds of figures will delight the eye of the visitor who has an appreciation of and an admiration for the different styles in which fickle fashion loves to enrobe the human form divine. The other attractions of these chambers are too well known to need mention in this notice. We can only say that Madame Tussaud's is one of the most unique exhibitions in all London.

**PROPOSED MONUMENT TO SHAKESPEARE.**—On Monday afternoon a general meeting of the subscribers to the Shakespeare Memorial Fund was held at the house of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, under the presidency of Sir W. Tite, M.P. The chairman explained that the object of the meeting was to decide what was to be done with the balance of £285 which stood over from the Tercentenary Shakespeare Festival. Professor Donaldson said, if there were any probability of subscriptions coming in, he should be for going on with the work of the committee, so that they might have in London a Shakespeare monument; that a good statue of Shakespeare should be provided. If they could raise £10,000, it might give them some hope of carrying out the object they had in view. Mr. Gruneisen said, under all the circumstances, he thought the best thing to do would be to hand over the balance to the Dramatic College at Woking, an institution which supported and kept those who had represented Shakespearean characters. He should be glad to move a resolution to that effect. The Chevalier Chatelet said he should be pleased to second the resolution. Mr. W. Hepworth Dixon did not think the committee had any power to divert the money from the purpose for which it had been raised. The amount subscribed was £2400, and there was from £300 to £900 outstanding which had never been applied for. If that amount were called in, he believed a very considerable portion of it would be paid up, and they could then have for a sum of £1200 a very beautiful statue of Shakespeare erected on the Thames Embankment. Mr. Richardson-Gardner said, if there was a determination on the part of the committee to carry out the object for which they were appointed and erect a statue to Shakespeare, he would undertake to get subscriptions to the amount of 200 guineas. Mr. Couzens said he would also undertake to raise 200 guineas. Mr. W. Hepworth Dixon said that, rather than abandon the object he had in view, he would undertake to raise 100 guineas. After some further discussion, on the motion of Mr. W. Hepworth Dixon, seconded by Mr. Godwin, the following resolution was carried:—"That it be referred to the executive committee to endeavour to get in the outstanding subscriptions, and to receive further subscriptions, for the purpose of carrying out the original object for which the fund was subscribed; that the executive committee do have power to add to their number, and to appoint any officials whose places may have become or may become vacant."

**THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL AT WOOLWICH.**—The Emperor of Brazil visited Woolwich on Monday. His Majesty, attended by Senhor Areas, the Brazilian Minister, and Senhor Da Gama, Chamberlain, arrived in an enclosure from London at twelve o'clock, and drove at once into the Royal Arsenal, where the principal Staff officers connected with the garrison and the Royal Arsenal were in readiness to receive him. These officers had been waiting since ten o'clock, it having been notified that his Majesty would arrive about that hour. The officers present were Major-General Sir David Wood, K.C.B., Commandant of the garrison; Brigadier-General J. M. Adye, C.B., Director of Artillery and Stores; Colonel F. A. Campbell, Superintendent Royal Gun Factories; Colonel T. W. Milward, C.B., Superintendent Royal Laboratory; Captain H. W. Gordon, C.B., Controller; Captain A. T. Pearce, Brigade Major, Royal Artillery; Major F. Close, R.A.; Captain Lowry, R.A.; and Lieutenant G. Best, R.A., Aide-de-Camp to the Major-General Commanding. The Emperor was first conducted through the large room of the Royal Laboratory, the largest workshop in the world, where he viewed with evident pleasure the ingenious process of manufacturing the bullet for the Snider rifle, and inspected a number of corrugated water-tight powder-cases, which had just been completed. After passing through the lead-squitting room, for making the coils from which the rifle-bullets are cut and manufactured, the party visited the pattern-room, where sealed patterns of all the shot, shell, fuses, &c., at present used in the service are kept. His Majesty inspected a large number of the different articles, many of which he appeared to be quite conversant with. The apparatus for firing rockets was particularly noticed by him; likewise the immense cartridge and projectile for the 35-ton gun. On leaving this building they passed through the paper factory, where his Majesty witnessed the mode of manufacturing the Snider cartridge. A portion of Colonel Milward's modification for his Majesty's inspection. The mounting-shed was next visited, and the principle of the Mottier gun explained by a full-sized model; also one of the Abyssinian mountain guns, which his Majesty closely scrutinised. A construction to represent an idea of Colonel Clerk, the superintendent of the Royal Carriage Department, to fire a gun en barbette over a 6-ft. parapet, was next examined, and then the Emperor walked to the Royal Gun Factories, where he visited in turn the coiling-mills, the pattern-room, the museum, and witnessed several interesting processes in the manufacture of heavy ordnance; the new forge, where a massive "heat" of metal was brought out of an enormous furnace and hammered by the twelve-ton hammer into the required shape, and the forging of another of these masses into a solid gun for the manufacture of the breech piece of one of the heaviest guns, and then proceeded to the shell-foundry and the boring-mills. Mr. Abel, chemist of the War Department, then made some interesting experiments on the wharf to show the nature and advantages of gun-cotton. A cake of compressed gun-cotton was placed on the ground, and when fired exploded with tremendous force, far exceeding that of gunpowder; but a precisely similar cake, when ignited with a common match, burst away in a harmless manner, the difference being that in the former case the cake had been fired by a detonating fuse. After passing through a portion of the Royal Carriage Department the Emperor took his leave.

## MUSIC.

INTERESTING events come thicker and faster at the Royal Italian Opera as the season draws to a close. Thus, on Saturday last, Cimarosa's little musical farce, "L'Astuzie Femminili," was played, for the first time in England, and gratified every lover of melody and every admirer of the pure school of composition which flourished in the days of Mozart. We cannot say, however, that the opera is exactly of the sort best suited to Covent Garden Theatre. There are in it but six characters, no chorus is employed, and in all points of its structure the work is, comparatively speaking, an *opera di camera*. But, as Mr. Gye makes a point of bringing out one novelty a year, he probably selected "L'Astuzie Femminili" for the reason that it gave little trouble and involved no expense. We shall not grumble at this. Cimarosa's opera is worth a hearing; and, though it will hardly be put upon the stage again, its two performances redeemed the season from absolute barrenness. The plot, which embodies a love intrigue, is very slight—a mere peg upon which to hang tuneful themes; and we may spare ourselves a description of its various phases. Enough that the little opera appeared to gratify the small audience assembled to hear it, doing so in spite of a very indifferent performance. The artists engaged were Mesdames Sessi, Vanzini, and Scaschi; MM. Cotogni, Ciampi, and Bettini, some of whom knew their work and did it fairly well. "L'Astuzie" was repeated on Tuesday night. Monday's performance of "Les Huguenots" was for the benefit of Madame Adelina Patti, who, for the first time in England, essayed the arduous rôle of Valentine. Not a few of the lady's best friends doubted whether she acted wisely in going so far outside of her métier, and pitting herself against a character which demands robust powers. The result was in part a justification of their doubt. Madame Patti, on her own ground, is without a rival; but she is not an operatic Admire Crichton in petticoats, and there are parts which lie quite beyond her reach. Valentine is one of them. Madame Patti does not carry weight enough for it. We want Valentine to be a grand woman, such as Grisi, such as is Titians; and, when the character is assumed by a little creature like Patti, the sense of disproportion becomes almost ludicrous. But nobody could smile at her singing. In the music of Meyerbeer the artist was as much at her ease as when warbling the melodies of Bellini or Donizetti; and, whatever may have been the dramatic result of Madame Patti's assumption, its vocal success was indisputable. The other characters were sustained as on former occasions, and need not detain us; while it is easy to assume that the crowded audience were more than usually demonstrative towards the heroine of the evening. Signor Mario's benefit and last appearance took place on Wednesday evening, when Donizetti's "La Favorita" was performed. As every reader knows, the part of Fernando is among the great tenor's best, and ranks decidedly first in the matter of popularity, so that its choice was every way justifiable. Signor Mario appeared to be in one of his best moods, and the whole affair passed off well, worthily closing a distinguished career. The enthusiasm of the audience after the third and fourth acts was unbounded; and we should say that more vehement and prolonged cheering had never before been heard within the walls of an English opera-house. Again and again did the retiring favourite come before the curtain, each time to be shouted at and covered with wreaths and flowers; but still the people were not satisfied, and he had to appear again and yet again, till the energy, if not the admiration, of the house fairly burnt itself out. All this was very pleasant to see, being honourable alike to those who paid the tribute and to him who received it. Signor Mario now knows, if he were uncertain of the fact before, that he carries with him the unbounded esteem of the public to whom he ministered for more than thirty years. What better assurance could any artist take into his honourably-earned retirement? "L'Etoile du Nord" was repeated on Thursday; last night "Faust" was given for the benefit of Mlle. Sessi; and the season closes this evening with a performance of "Dinorah."

There is little or nothing to say of the doings of Her Majesty's Opera, Mr. Mapleson having withdrawn the name of Mlle. Marlborough from his bills, owing to the lady's continued illness; and nothing but repetition performances having recently been given. We may state here, however, that Mr. Mapleson's benefit took place at the Crystal Palace, on Wednesday, when an extraordinary variety of entertainments gratified some 10,000 people. A concert took place in the transept in the afternoon: all the principal members of the Drury Lane troupe, with band and chorus, participating. Later on, a ballet, "La Rose de Séville," was presented on the great stage, followed by the "Barbière," in which M. Capoul made his first appearance as Count Almaviva, assisted by Mlle. Léon Duval, Signor Foli, Signor Mendizorez, Signor Zocchi, and others. Later still came a display of fireworks, which lasted till midnight was near at hand. A more brilliant and diversified fête nobody could desire.

A performance of "The Creation" took place in Albert Hall, on Monday, conducted by Mr. G. W. Martin; the chief vocalists being Miss Scott, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Mr. Lander. A large audience assembled, and appeared greatly to enjoy Haydn's beautiful music. It is to be hoped, however, that by another season Mr. Martin will be able to improve his band and chorus, which contain a large proportion of those whose room would be better than their company. The great organ in Albert Hall was "opened," on Tuesday evening, by Mr. W. T. Best, who played a varied selection of pieces to show off its powers and quality. The result was satisfactory to most present, and at last we have a metropolitan instrument upon which it is possible to give solo performances with adequate effect. The hall was again occupied on Wednesday, when the fifth of the Society of Arts' concerts took place. An ordinary miscellaneous programme enlisted the services of Madame Sherrington, Mlle. Fernandez, Signor Vizzani, Mr. Cummings, and Mlle. Titens, with Herr Pauer and M. E. Howell as solo instrumentalists. Among the pieces played by the orchestra were Auber's overture to "Gustave," Sullivan's "In Memoriam," Beethoven's "Leonora," and Mozart's "Le Nozze"—capital selections, able to satisfy the most exacting taste. Sir M. Costa conducted. Last night all the music composed for the opening of the International Exhibition was repeated, under Mr. Arthur Sullivan's direction, and thus closed the most musical week Albert Hall has yet known.

**THE LORDS' DIVISION ON THE ARMY BILL.**—In the division on Monday night the following Conservative peers, fourteen in number, voted with the Government:—The Earls of Cathcart, Cadogan, Devon, Longford, Nelson, Romney, Stanhope, and Strathmore; Viscounts Midleton (late one of the members for Mid-Surrey) and Sidmouth, and Lords Dunsmuir, Lytton, and Seaton. Seventeen peers who usually act with the Liberal party voted with the Opposition:—The Duke of Norfolk; the Marquises of Clanricarde, Donegal, and Townshend; Earls Dalhousie, Radnor, Russell, and Stratford (whose son, Lord Enfield, is Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs); Lords Aveland, Fitzhardinge, Lovat, Overstone, Romilly, Strathearn, Vernon, Vivian, and Wentworth. Four prelates were in the minority in favour of the bill—viz., the Archbishop of York, and the Bishops of Exeter, Manchester, and Ripon. The Archbishop of Canterbury paired in favour of the measure, and so prelate went into the lobby against the second reading. Of the descendants of distinguished military commanders who took part in the division the Duke of Wellington, Earl Amherst, Viscounts Combermere, Gough, Hardinge, and Hill, and Lord Raglan voted against the bill. The Duke of Marlborough was not present. Lord Sandhurst went with the Ministry, and Lord Strathmore with the Opposition. In the majority also was Viscount Templeown, Military Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth. The number of 285 Peers was a considerable one, and only twice during the past twenty years has it been exceeded. On June 29, 1868, when the Suspensory Bill was rejected, 289 noble Lords voted; and twelve months later 325 Peers personally recorded their votes on the second reading of the Irish Church Disestablishment Bill. Even in the memorable division on Lord Palmerston's Danish policy, in July, 1864 only 242 Peers were in the House. On the present occasion the vote of the Archbishop of York is remarkable for the absence of the Bishops from the Opposition lobby. On the Suspensory Bill the prelates voted 21 against, and none for; on the Irish Church, 16 against, and one for; and on the foreign policy of Lord Palmerston, they were 11 to one in favour of the Ministry.

## THE AGINCOURT.

THE *Gibraltar Chronicle* of the 5th inst. gives the following particulars of the circumstances of the Agincourt grounding on the Pearl Rock:—"Now that her Majesty's ship Agincourt, to the relief of everybody, is once more safely at anchor with the fleet, and the excitement which was caused by the accident has subsided, it would not be out of place to give a succinct account of what really did happen, and by so doing to dispose of, once for all, the innumerable rumours and assertions which have been scattered during the last few days with such prodigality throughout Gibraltar. To commence with, it may not be generally known that the Pearl Rock, situated about one mile from Pigeon Island, extends outwards from the shore to a much greater distance than is marked on the charts—a fact which is well known to all masters of vessels belonging to the place. There is also another very important point which must be taken into consideration, which is the strength of the tide at the entrance of the Bay, considerable at all times, but particularly so at this season of the year. The Agincourt, at the time of the accident, had changed her direct course towards the African shore, and was inclining towards that of Spain, in order to keep her station when fairly in the strait, and while doing so her length was exposed to the full force of this strong tide; she was also steering by compass, so that when she was apparently keeping a straight course the current was slowly but surely forcing her immense length nearer and nearer the Spanish coast. That this was the immediate cause of the disaster is proved by her having gone aground on the south-east edge of the Pearl Rock. On Sunday afternoon an anchor was put out on the port bow of the Agincourt in a south-westerly direction by the Lion Belge to a distance of about 100 fathoms, the guns were taken out of her, her coal was thrown overboard, and the ship, in short, lightened to the greatest possible extent. These preparations having been completed, her Majesty's ship Hercules came stern to stern with her at eleven a.m. yesterday, and held on with a chain, about five fathoms long, from each of her hawse pipes. Shortly after three o'clock in the afternoon the rise of the tide moved her slightly, and about half an hour after her first move her Majesty's ship Hercules made the attempt to tow her off. As soon as it was evident that this attempt was succeeding, the assistance of the smaller tugs was called in, and the united force of all soon took the ship clear of all danger. So sudden was the lurch off the Pearl Rock that the stern of the Agincourt came against that of the Hercules, slightly damaging the latter. Her Majesty's ship Hercules then cast off and the Agincourt was towed by the various tugs to Sandy Bay to an anchorage in line with the Minotaur, where she now is. We must not omit to mention the willing assistance afforded by the Spanish man-of-war Liniers (paddle-sloop), which broke one hawser in her efforts and smartly replaced it by another." The *Chronicle* of the 6th says:—"Her Majesty's ships Minotaur, Hercules, and Agincourt steamed over from the Spanish side early this morning, and the latter immediately went alongside the dockyard. Though the examination of her bottom is not yet completed, enough is known to enable us to state that the damage which she has sustained is not at all serious. As a matter of prudence she will be docked, but there is not any absolute necessity for the step. All arrangements connected with her are in abeyance until the arrival of the Black Eagle, hourly expected. Her Majesty's ship Hercules, we are informed, received quite an ovation from the remainder of the fleet on her return, after towing the Agincourt off the Pearl Rock, the various crews giving her a round of cheers and the bands playing 'See, the conquering hero comes.'" The *Army and Navy Gazette* of Saturday says of the casualty:—"There have of late years been several miscarriages of justice owing to court-martials on officers having been held at foreign stations, where certain influences were at work which would not have been present had the trial been at home. For this reason we are glad to find it has been stated that, as soon as her Majesty's ship Agincourt can be sufficiently repaired at Gibraltar to warrant her being sent across the bay, she will be ordered to proceed to Devonport, where a court-martial will assemble to try those individuals who were implicated in the manoeuvre which ended in lodging her, in the middle of a bright summer's day, on the Pearl Rock. It is satisfactory to find that the Lords of the Admiralty are resolved upon having a searching inquiry into the whole matter here at home, immediately, as it were, under the nose of public opinion; and thus a fitting opportunity will be afforded of again discussing the necessity of having all officers, from the Admiral downwards, trained and educated in the art of navigation, to the exclusion of a separate class."

A correspondent of the *Times* sends a long account of the grounding of the Agincourt on the Pearl Rock, and of the means used to get her off. After attempts had been made to tow her off the rock, and to heave her off—or in other words, pull her stern by the cable, at the same time giving full speed astern with the engines—it was resolved to go on lightening the ship as much as possible, and, when sufficient weight had been got out, to have another try at the towing. Monday, the 3rd, was spent in lightening the ship, and on Tuesday preparations for towing commenced with sunrise; and by the time of high water, three p.m., everything was ready and waiting for the exciting moment.

Besides the Hercules, a Spanish man-of-war steamer was made fast to the starboard side, and a steam-tug to the starboard bow, all being directed to tow slightly to starboard as well as astern. The sight was now one which will not be forgotten. In both ships, as well as in the Inconstant, anchored a little way off, the whole of the crews were ranged about on the hammock nettings and half way up the rigging, to get a good view of the "launch." The great steam-pipes of the Hercules were snorting away, as if they had had enough of standing still, and wanted to get to work; while the excitement fore and aft seemed more like the Derby Day before the start than anything else. At three o'clock, after a good deal of waiting to get the tug made fast and the Hercules, at last there was a "haul from the Agincourt to the Hercules, 'Are you ready?' 'All ready, Sir,' was the answer; and immediately afterwards, 'Go on, slow at first.' The Spanish steamer was the first to tauten her cable, which she did with such a will that away went her towing balliards and fell into the water astern, without, luckily, injuring anyone. The order was now heard on board the Hercules "fifteen revolutions ahead," and then almost immediately, "thirty revolutions;" and as the heavy chain cables groaned and rendered through their fastenings until they could render no more, the Agincourt gave signs of being alive by pivoting round until her bow and stern were lying fair in the direction of strain. The cables were hardly looking straight at their work when the order was given "full speed," and immediately the water churned up under the stern of the ships like a dozen waterfalls, the eddy being driven, of course, against the Agincourt's stern, so that it was impossible, from looking at her, to tell whether she was really moving or only breasting the frothy stream. At last there was no doubt of it. The marks on shore began to alter, and at the same time there burst out such a cheer as could never be heard anywhere but on board a British man-of-war. Where the cheering first commenced it was difficult to say, but it was instantly taken up by the 1300 voices of both ships and echoed back by the Inconstant, while the exultant, tugging away at one another, moved rapidly astern. The excitement, however, was far from over, as in very short time the Hercules was obliged to slacken speed to pick up her anchor, which it will be remembered was kept down to place the vessel in the proper direction; and it was at once seen that the Agincourt, having no such incumbrance, would come, in collision with considerable force. Happily the sterns of ironclads are not, and also they are not sharp, like the rams, so there was no fear of danger, and all were looking on, with the greatest interest, to see the shock. At last it came. The stern walks of both ships were crumpled up like brown paper, allowing the massive sterns to come in contact, with a bump which set the masts shaking, and gave the lookers-on some idea, although a mild one, of what the collision when large ships ram one another would be like. The damage done was quite trifling; but the immediate position of the ships was far from satisfactory, for the towing cables had slackened, and the tug of foul of the Hercules's screw, so that she was entirely at the mercy of the current and wind. "Slip the cables!" was the order now heard on the board both ships, and on board the Hercules, "Hands, make sail!" The yards were at once covered with men, all ready to let the sails drop the moment the order was given. This, however, was not required, as the crew of the cables were soon seen flying out of the hawse-hole, and the Agincourt being now clear, the ship was once more under control. The only remaining difficulty was to secure the Agincourt, which was still without the aid of her engines; and this was soon managed by two or three tugs, which had kept at a respectful distance while there was any chance of a collision between the two ironclads, but now came manfully to the front and hauled the rescued ship out into a safe position.



## MR. ISAAC BUTT ON "HOME RULE."

MR. ISAAC BUTT, Q.C., delivered a lecture, on Monday night, in the Birmingham Townhall, on "Home Rule" for Ireland. In the course of the lecture Mr. Butt said that, if men who were more interested in keeping the peace of Ireland than in putting down crime than any English Parliament could be were to meet in Dublin, he would not be surprised to find them agreeing to such a measure as the Westmeath Bill. But it was because the Government was not in unison with the Irish sentiment, for want of a proper representation in the Irish legislature, that the Irish people—those who did not understand the Irish people—those measures were passed which were worse than anything that had been enacted for Poland or Naples, worse than anything now practically enforced in the dominions of the Sultan. Would anyone say it was not a monstrous thing that if any town in the north of Ireland wanted a gas bill, it must send over to England, spend £2,000 or £3,000, and then have the matter referred to a committee that knew nothing about it. Would it not be better to send it to a tribunal in Dublin? Was it not the same principle, that if Westmeath was in a disturbed state, a body of gentlemen in Dublin would be more likely to find a remedy than a body of gentlemen in London? He might be asked what things he would leave to the Imperial Parliament and what to the local Parliament. He would leave to the former everything connected with the dignity and honour of the Crown, the succession to the Crown, the Army and Navy, peace and war, India, the colonies—all that concerned Imperial questions; but if it were a question of suppressing tumult in Westmeath, or of Irish railways, or of anything of that nature, let the Irish Parliament, composed of gentlemen who understood their own country and their own business, deal with it. In regard to Canada, Parliament had found no difficulty in dealing with such matters. Four or five Englishmen and four or five Irishmen meeting together in a spirit of candour could settle every question that was likely to arise. He did not say there would be no difficulty; in course of time, no doubt, there would be. No political measure ever yet framed had been free from difficulty; but could they shut their eyes to the fact that there was difficulty now? If they wished to keep Ireland by their side, a friend and not a foe, their strength and not their weakness, let them give her that institution which had never yet failed in reconciling men to their government—a free and open Parliament to manage her own affairs. He need not speak of fears of Roman Catholic or of Protestant ascendancy. He believed every man who pledged himself to home rule in Ireland pledged himself to perfect religious equality, and any man who would dare to cry "No Popery" and "Home Rule" in the same breath was either an idiot or a knave. It was very easy to settle that question by adopting the principle of the American States, and saying that the Irish Parliament should never have the power to meddle with any religious question, but should leave it to the Imperial Parliament. He scorned the Irish Protestant who feared to trust himself in his own country. The Catholics of Ireland had no wish to attack the liberties of their Protestant countrymen. Miserable dissensions had divided Irishmen, and they could not help charging it on the English Government that it had encouraged them; but the English people were not responsible for the crimes of Governments. He wanted the English people to disavow those crimes, and take their place beside their Irish brethren in the battle of freedom which both had to fight. In conclusion, Mr. Butt declared he believed in his conscience that home rule would content the Irish people, and said that since the question had been raised there had been an absence of political agitation in Ireland. He appealed to the English workmen to stand by their Irish brethren, with whom they were bound in toil by bonds far stronger than those which bound together the rich and the aristocrats. Let Ireland be contented, and England, Ireland, and Scotland would form a league against which all despots combined might dash themselves in vain.

## THE ELTHAM MURDER.

The trial of Edmund Walter Pook for the Eltham murder, which occupied four days last week, resulted in his acquittal. The Court did not rise on Saturday night until nearly ten o'clock. The jury were twenty minutes in deliberation, and when the foreman pronounced the verdict of "Not guilty," there was a loud and thrilling cheer, which in a moment was caught up by a large crowd in the Old Bailey, and repeated again and again. It was some time before the excitement died away. Chief Justice Bovill, in his summing-up, remarked with regard to two of the witnesses, named Conway and Perrin, that the Government would not be performing their duty unless the evidence given by those two men was carefully scrutinised, and, if there were grounds for prosecuting them, in his judgment they ought to be prosecuted for perjury. His Lordship went on to say the case had been brought forward as an important State trial at the instance of her Majesty's Government. He was not surprised, because a more cruel, deliberate, and wicked murder was probably never committed in the annals of crime, and it was the duty of the Government to prosecute it. That being so, it was the duty of the police, and the prosecution, when conducted at the instance of the Government, to lay before the jury not only circumstances tending to establish the guilt of the prisoner, but every circumstance in his favour; and if that were not done, it placed the jury and the Judge in the position of having to act on evidence upon which possibly, if an innocent man were convicted, they might be parties, he might say, to the commission of a murder. He commented in strong terms on the way in which the case had been got up by the police, and with regard to Inspector Mulvaney in particular, he said there was a direct and distinct statement by Mulvaney that the prisoner had written a letter to the deceased girl. He could not excuse the police in making such a statement. There was no letter, and he regretted such a statement should have been made; but the moment the jury found the police going beyond their duty to introduce false evidence into the case it became the more

necessary for them to apply the strictest scrutiny to every matter connected with the subject, especially in a case depending, like this, on circumstantial evidence. In concluding his charge the Chief Justice pointed out certain pieces of evidence tending in the prisoner's favour, which one or other of the officers, Griffin and Mulvaney, had left out in their narratives, and which had been supplied incidentally in the course of their cross-examination, explaining, at the same time, that he imputed no dishonest intention to them, but merely thought that they regarded as immaterial any little circumstance which did not happen to connect itself with one or other of the links in their chain of evidence. In one case, however—in which the fact that the prisoner denied a damaging statement as to his connection with the deceased—was omitted to be mentioned, while the statement itself, without the denial, was given—his Lordship remarked indignantly that it was very hard that a judge and jury investigating a charge of wilful murder should be misled in that way, and should be liable to the greatest risk in forming an incorrect conclusion. It was terrible, he added, that, however unintentionally, such false colouring should be given by the police, and he advised the jury to watch most narrowly their evidence.

Mr. Ebenezer Whitcher Pook, the father of the accused, writes to the newspapers—"I have instructed my solicitor, Mr. H. Pook, of the Temple, to take immediate steps to indict Griffin and Mulvaney for wilful and corrupt perjury. As for Perren, Conway, and Lazzell, I suppose, after the remarks of the Lord Chief Justice, they will be dealt with by the Crown."

The trial has been the occasion of some disgraceful scenes in Greenwich. On Saturday night a crowd of "roughs" gathered in the streets, carrying flags, some of which were black, and others had the word "Blood" inscribed upon them. The solicitor for the defence and the relatives of young Pook were hooted, jostled, and maltreated, all in the presence of the police, who took no notice of what was going on. This conduct was repeated on Monday; and for several hours, and up to even midnight, the town was the scene of the most disgraceful and disorderly exhibition on the part of a mob of some 3,000 or 4,000 persons, who had assembled in front of the residence of the parents of the youth whose claim to an entire acquittal had been so fully proved. The mob's feeling was one of opposition and annoyance at the finding of the jury; and, a similar feeling having been exhibited on the night of Saturday, a communication was made to Colonel Henderson, Chief Commissioner of Police, in order to prevent a repetition of the outrage. An answer was received from Captain Labalmondiere that the threatened procession of effigies and the congregating of any mob would be prevented; but, notwithstanding this, about six o'clock a truck, containing the effigy of a person in female attire, with a man using a plasterer's hammer, in the act of committing murder, was paraded through the town. From this time crowds began to assemble; the superintendent and two or three inspectors of police, with a few constables, were on the spot, but their inactivity allowed the crowd to increase, and the yells, and whistling, and other noises represented a perfect Babel, and during the evening a complete stop was put to business. It was stated that a reserve of twenty-five constables was in a near public building, but up to a late hour their services had not been called into requisition. A repetition of the same disgraceful scenes took place on Tuesday; on that occasion, however, the police did make some show of interfering to preserve the peace, and the mobs were dispersed.

At the Greenwich Police Court, on Tuesday, Mr. Henry Pook, solicitor, appeared to two summonses charging him with having, on May 6 and 8 last, been guilty of violent behaviour at the police-station at Blackheath. There were also cross summonses against two policemen, for abusing Mr. Pook, who, it will be remembered, conducted the case of Edmund Walter Pook in its earlier stages. The present proceedings arose out of an altercation between the solicitor and the constables at one of the preliminary inquiries. Mr. Pook was fined 40s., and the summonses against the constables were dismissed.

## CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

At last Saturday's sitting of the Central Criminal Court two important trials, besides that of the Eltham murder, were brought to a conclusion. Before Mr. Baron Channell, Hannah Newington, alias Flora Davy, was found guilty of the manslaughter of Mr. Moon, and sentenced to eight years' penal servitude. The prisoner made a long statement when called upon to say why sentence should not be pronounced upon her. She said:—"I am innocent. If I were guilty, and guilty in my own mind, no punishment would be too great for me—if I could have done that to him whom I have known for so many years. He has been all in all to me. I left my husband for him, and, after remaining with him for all these years, I could not have been guilty of doing that to him. When Mr. Moon first knew me I was mixing in the society of his own family. My husband wished to get a divorce; but, to save the family of Mr. Moon, I joined my husband again at Boulogne, and the matter was condoned. My husband afterwards came to England, broke everything in the house, and left me, saying that all I wanted was a divorce, but that I should not have it. There was a gentleman in court, Mr. Turquand, of the firm of Coleman and Turquand, who wrote letters to my husband at the dictation of Mr. John Moon, the brother of Mr. Frederick Moon. After that they persuaded him to leave me. He did leave me. Mr. Pickford was one selected to go with him. He left me only for a time, for he came back. I went to his brother John, and asked him if he would give Mr. Frederick Moon a letter from me, to the effect that I would never see him again, and that I would live with my husband. He said, 'No; Sir Francis and they had arranged that no letter should be sent.' In the meantime, Mr. Frederick Moon returns, and we agree that I am to be entirely with him—not to live with him altogether, but that I should belong to him. This last year, for eighteen months after his mother's death, he was always unhappy, and he did not see enough of me. Then he proposed that I should be entirely under his protection, for he

was so unhappy, as his letter states, that he could not have me all to himself. My daughter being married and settled, I determined that I would be with him entirely. That is the whole. We have been most happy. He was most kind. The whole of his consideration had been to promote my happiness, and I have studied his. I could not—could not have done him any injury. It was in the struggle. He was going to throw a bottle, and I jumped up quickly. He tried to take the knife from me. I am not sure whether he got it or not. We struggled and fell. I thought at first I must be the one injured. I found blood on me—warm blood. I said, 'Oh, Fred! what have you done?' Then I found, of course, it was him, not myself. I tried all I could to do something to stop it. First of all I applied cold water; then I remembered that cold water produced blood instead of stopping it. Then I sent for ice and tried that. Then the doctors came." The prisoner fainted on hearing the sentence.

The girl Agnes Norman was placed upon her trial, before the Common Serjeant, on a charge of child murder; but, the evidence being insufficient for a conviction, she was afterwards indicted for having attempted to strangle a boy named Parfit, eleven years of age. Upon this she was convicted, with a recommendation to mercy on account of her youth. The Common Serjeant deferred sentence until next session, and intimated that in the meantime inquiries would be made respecting the prisoner.

## LONDON POLICE COURTS.

MORE POLICE BLUNDERING.—At Bow-street, last Saturday, John Ford, badge 101, a driver of a Camden Town omnibus, was summoned before Sir Thomas Henry for cruelty to a horse. It appeared from the evidence of Police-constable George Brewster, E 146, that he noticed spots of blood on the collar of one of the horses, under which was a bad sore. He immediately took the horse and the driver to the police-station, in George-street, Bloomsbury. Sir Thomas Henry said that was an extreme course for the witness to pursue. In answer to his Worship the witness admitted that the passengers, twenty in number, were all compelled to leave the vehicle. It was a very wet morning, the hour being soon after ten o'clock, and many bank clerks would be on their way to town. Sir Thomas Henry observed that this was a very serious case, and asked the witness how long he had been in the police force, to which he replied three years. Sir Thomas Henry thought witness had acted very wrongly—in fact, against all common-sense—in taking the driver to the station (where the charge, of course, was not received), and causing so much inconvenience to the passengers who had important appointments to keep, to say nothing of the obstruction caused in such a thoroughfare as Tottenham-court-road by an omnibus with one horse being left. Neither was the driver responsible for the alleged condition of the horse. The proprietor of the omnibus was the proper person to have summoned. If the driver had been beating the horse too severely it would have been a different matter; but even then it was not a case where he should be dragged off the box and conveyed to a police-station, when a summons would have answered every purpose. Inspector Nelson was desired to represent the facts of the case to Superintendent Thomson, who would see that the constables were better instructed on this point. The summons was dismissed, but Sir Thomas Henry did not think it worth while to grant a summons against the proprietor, as he had suffered quite enough by the loss of his passengers.—At the same court, on Tuesday, a gentleman named Cartwright was charged with assault. When the case was called on no prosecutor appeared. The defendant asked if this was all the redress he was entitled to for being "collared" by a policeman and "run in" to the station while walking home peacefully with a friend. He knew nothing of his accuser, he had committed no assault on anyone; but, at the instigation of some fellow in the street, who thought proper to absent himself next morning, he was taken into custody like a felon, and if he had not been in the company of a friend, who bailed him out, he might have been locked up all night. In answer to Mr. Vaughan, the policeman said he saw nothing of the alleged assault, but the prosecutor's nose was bleeding. The prosecutor's address was taken at the station. Mr. Vaughan said it would have been better if the inspector had taken the address of both parties, and then directed the prosecutor to apply for a summons. He was sorry this course had not been adopted; but the defendant had a civil remedy if he had been improperly charged by the complainant. The defendant's friend said the complainant appeared to be a drunken labourer, and there was very little chance of redress in that quarter. Mr. Vaughan could say no more, but he hoped the police and the inspectors would exercise a little more caution in future.

STREET WAIFS.—At the Mansion House, on Tuesday, five boys were taken before Alderman Sir Benjamin Phillips by Joseph Wills and James Gair, industrial officers of the London School Board, on charges of wandering in the City without having visible means of subsistence or proper guardianship. In the first case the prisoners were George Turner, thirteen years of age, and Lawrence Anson, eleven, both intelligent lads, who had been given into custody by the officers on Monday week, and who since then had been lodged and clothed at one of the City Unions. When arrested, they were both in a very neglected condition. Turner stated that he was in the habit of living at a low coffee-shop in Thames-street, and that, although his mother repeatedly took him away, he never stopped at home. He had a brother and two sisters, and his father worked at a sawpit. He had never been to school. Anson said that he had a father and a mother, but had lost sight of them for two years, that he walked about all night, and sold cigar-lights in the daytime, and that he bought his clothes in Petticoat-lane. The prisoners were remanded by the Lord Mayor, in order that inquiries might be made as to the truth of their statements, the feeling of the Court being to give every possible discouragement to the abandonment of children by unnatural parents, and in proper cases to make parents liable for the expenses of the education afforded by the School Board. On Tuesday it was proved that Turner had been previously

in custody, and given up, on promises of better control, to his parents, and his mother again attended to beg the Court to permit him to return to her. The parents of Anson had not been found. The boys could neither read nor write. Sir Benjamin Phillips told the mother of Turner that the choice lay between having her son properly educated and taught a trade, or allowing him that liberty which might end in bringing him to the Old Bailey as a felon. Holding that the officers had done rightly in taking the lads into custody, he signed orders by which Turner will be sent to the East London Industrial School for three years, and Anson to the South London School for five years, until they have attained the age of sixteen. In the case of a boy named Gregory, aged ten, the Alderman, with the consent of the mother—a poor flower-hawker, with four other children—sent the boy to the East London School for six years. The other cases were those of lads named Cockran, thirteen, and Holland, ten, who, with seventeen others older than themselves, had been found sleeping under a tarpaulin in the Shades, Thames-street, between four and five o'clock on Tuesday morning. Sir Benjamin Phillips, commenting on the practice of immorality which such a concourse of lads would undoubtedly give rise to, and upon the laxity which the police had shown in dealing with them, remanded the boys for a week.

THE PATENT LAWS.—At a recent meeting of the London patent agents, held to consider the proposed changes in the patent laws—Geo. Haseltine, M.A., chairman—it was resolved:—(1) That inventors have a right to the sole use of their inventions, which it is the duty of legislators to harmonise with the interests of the State. (2) That patents should no longer be granted to mere "first importers," but should be confined to actual inventors. (3) That the term of a patent should be twenty-one years (now fourteen), without provision for extension. (4) That the official fees should be reduced from £175 to £10 for the entire term, which is sufficient to defray the expenses of an efficient patent system. (5) That the French mode of granting patents—without official investigation of the merits of the application—should be adopted. (6) That in patent suits the rights of patentees should be determined by a competent court of equity, dispensing with juries and "expert" witnesses.—*The Globe*.

EXPLOSIVE TOYS.—On Tuesday afternoon a parcel was handed in to the Manchester station of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. The clerk threw it on the floor, and a loud explosion immediately took place, which blew out the windows of the office and forced a large hole through the floor. Two clerks, a porter, and several persons were injured, their wounds being chiefly caused by cuts from the broken glass. The parcel, it was found, had contained a large number of children's toys, of French manufacture, in boxes, labelled "Cartouche mitrailleuse." The tubes of the toys had evidently been filled with detonating powder. A second explosion took place the same afternoon, in the receiving-office of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, in Market-street, Manchester, caused in exactly the same manner as the one at the railway station. The clerk who received the parcel sustained a slight contusion in one thigh and a scratch on the face, but was not badly hurt. Mr. Gledhill, toy merchant, has avowed himself as the sender of the second parcel. He says he received the toys from a firm in Basinghall-street, London, with an assurance that there was no danger of an explosion in transmitting them through common carriers.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.—The Lord Chancellor's new bill, making further provision for the dispatch of business by the Judicial Committee, has just reached the House of Commons, with every prospect of becoming law this Session. This bill empowers her Majesty, by warrant, to appoint four new members of the Judicial Committee from among the Judges and ex-Judges of the English and Indian Bench. It provides that when a Judge is appointed a member of the Judicial Committee he shall vacate his office of Judge, but that in relation to salary and pension his position shall remain unchanged; and that when an ex-Judge is appointed he shall receive a salary of £1500 a year in addition to his pension, which, in the case of an English Judge is £3500 a year, and of an Indian Judge £2000 a year; and this additional salary is to be paid out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom. Mr. Watkin Williams has given notice of some amendments. The first amendment provides that these new members shall hold office as Judges of the Judicial Committee "quoad ius bene gesserint"—i.e., during good behaviour—and shall be removable from their office by the Crown only upon the address of both Houses of Parliament; another amendment provides that service by a Judge upon the Judicial Committee shall entitle his clerks to their salaries as heretofore; a third amendment provides that each of the Judges shall be paid, in addition to any existing salary or pension, such a sum as will make up a total salary of £6000 a year.

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

BANKRUPTS.—J. and J. BEATTIE, Great Winchester-buildings, East India merchants.—J. D. L. CAMPBELL, Chippenham-road, Harrow-road, major in the Madras Staff Corps.—G. GARDEN, Camberwell-New-road.—W. TILL, Hampstead, builder.—J. BOUTON, Wykeham, Yorkshire, farmer.—W. COLLIER, Sheffield, beer-retailer.—G. COUPE, Canterbury, riding-master in the 10th Hussars.—T. DAVIES, Fortmadoc, innkeeper.—H. JONES, Yarnod and Pandy, Glamorgan-shire, ironmonger.—W. T. KEEN, Liverpool, tailor.—G. MOFFAT, Peterborough, draper.—C. E. ROBINSON, Bristol, boot manufacturer.—W. RUTHERFORD, Sedgill, Northumberland, publisher.—H. SAUNDERS, Isleworth, builder.—J. THOMPSON, Lower Broughton, brickmaker.—B. H. WESTBY, Chatham, captain in the 10th Regiment.—W. H. STEVENSON, Fenchurch-lane, Lancashire mechanic.—J. WILSON, Bradford, Yorkshire, tradesman.—A. WILSON, Lewisham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERS.—W. B. ROSS, Glasgow, livestock agent.—D. MUNRO, Haugh, Inverness, grocer.—A. FAIRBAIRN and J. McNAB, Stirling, builders.—A. BORN, Edinburgh, spirit-dealer.

TUESDAY, JULY 18.

BANKRUPTS.—W. B. GOWER and C. A. BLECKLY, King William-street, City, merchants.—H. SHEFFIELD, Road-lane, merchant.—F. ENGLISH, Charlton Kings, Major-General in the Army.—T. HATFIELD, Dorking, draper.—A. S. ISRAEL, Chesham.—J. LEVE, Rush-hill, Lyncome and Widdowson.—R. H. THOMAS, Girdlebury, painter.—J. R. PACE, Bath, Esq.—D. TOWNSEND, Manchester, woollen merchant.—G. L. WILMERS, Tottenham.



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DOMESTIC SEWING-MACHINES,  
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**HOME CHARITIES.**—Owing to the noble  
and benevolent exertions made by the British public  
to aid the sick and wounded in the war lately raging on the  
Continent, to relieve the French peasants, and the relatives  
and friends of those lost in H.M.S. Captain, the funds of the  
following Home Charities have suffered very materially, viz.:—  
The Boys' Refuge, at 8, Great Queen-street, Holborn.  
Bisley Farm School, Surrey.  
Chichester Training Ship.  
Girls' Refuge, 19, Broad-street, Bloomsbury.  
Home for Ladies Girls and Girls' Refuge, Reading.  
In these institutions between 600 and 650 boys and girls are  
educated, fed, clothed, and trained to earn their own living.  
Besides the above work, upwards of 500 ragged school children  
are supplied with food and clothing once a week.  
An URGENT APPEAL is then made for help to purchase  
food and clothing for these poor children. Contributions will  
be thankfully received by the London and Westminster Dues,  
24, High Holborn, and 21, Lothbury, City; and by  
WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Secretary.  
Boys' Refuge, 8, Great Queen-street, Holborn, W.C.

**ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn-  
road.**—Open to the sick poor without letters of recom-  
mendation. FUNDS urgently needed.  
JAMES S. BLYTH, Sec.

**WESTERN OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.**  
155, Marylebone-road.—THE FUNDS of this important  
Charity are exhausted, and the wards for in-patients must  
absolutely be closed at the end of this month unless AID is  
renewed.

**ROYAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC**  
HOSPITAL, Bedford-street, Moorfields, E.C.  
The great emergency of the Hospital necessitates an urgent  
APPEAL for AID to meet current expenses. Annual sub-  
scriptions are especially solicited.  
An average of 35,000 out-patients and 1000 in-patients received  
annually.  
T. Moorford, Secretary.

**THE ROYAL GENERAL DISPENSARY,**  
2, Bartholomew-clause.—THE QUARTERLY GENERAL  
MEETING of GOVERNORS will be held at the Dispensary,  
on Monday, the 12th inst., at 12 o'clock precisely.  
June 7, 1871.  
JOHN FAULKNER, Hon. Sec.  
E. P. ROWELL, Sec.

**INFIRMARY for EPILEPSY and**  
PARALYSIS, Charles-street, Fortman-square, W.—In-  
door and Out-patients are received from all parts. FUNDS are  
URGENTLY required to extend the operation of this useful  
Charity. Bankers, Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co.; Drummonds  
and Co.  
E. J. WATERBURY, Hon. Sec.

**ROYAL HOSPITAL for DISEASES of the**  
THROAT, City-road. The wards for in-patients are con-  
stantly full, these for out-patients crowded daily. FUNDS  
greatly needed. Bankers, Glyn and Co. The Hon. P. C. Glyn,  
Treasurer.  
CHARLES L. KEMP